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THE INDUSTRIAL WAR.

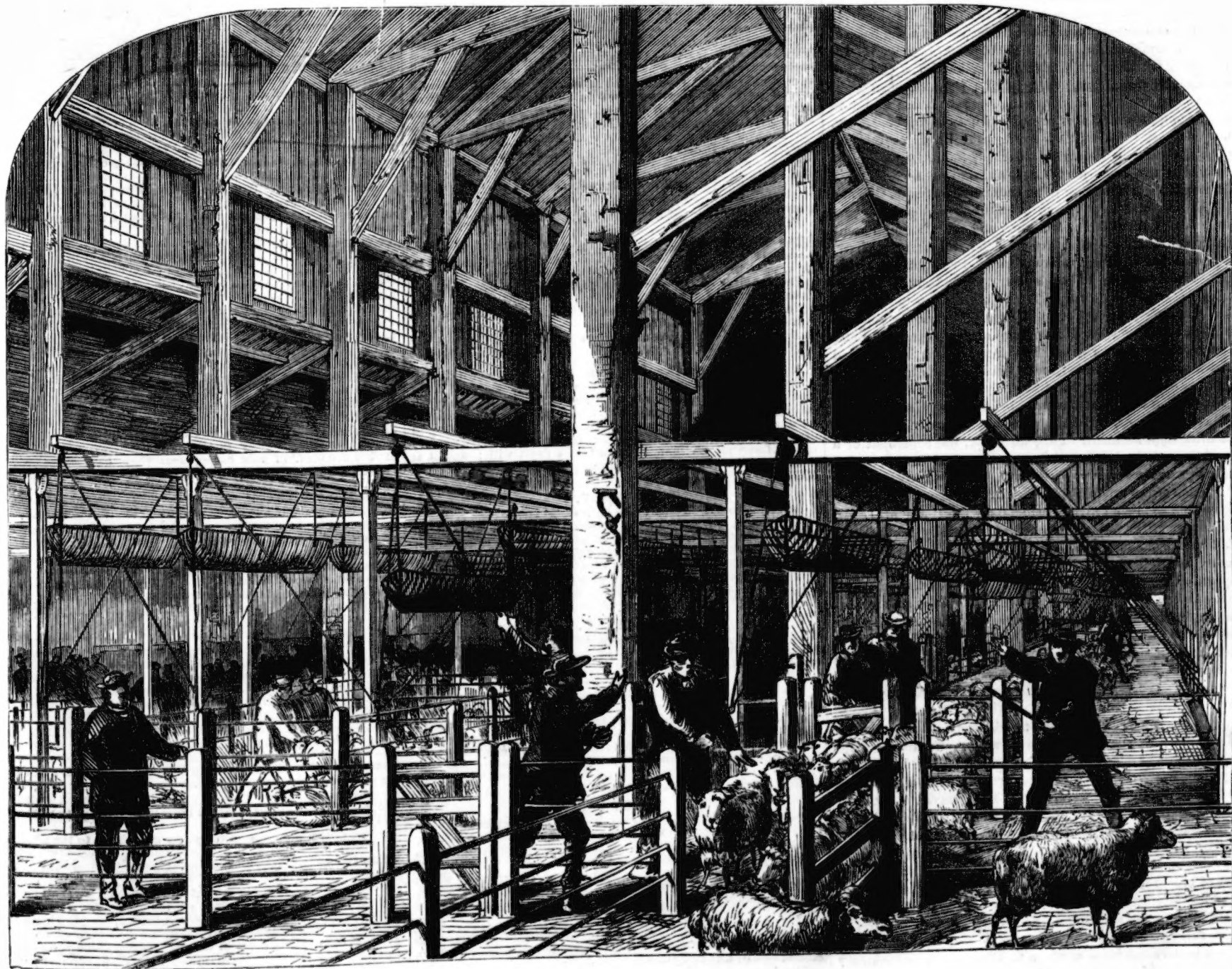
THE warfare between masters and workmen over the short time and wages questions, which began at Newcastle last summer and has since raged with more or less of virulence all over the provinces (generally—indeed, almost universally—to the advantage of the men), has now broken out in London, and, we are sorry to say, with some rather disagreeable symptoms. Neither masters nor men seem to be actuated, in the metropolis, with the sensible spirit which, after the experience of Newcastle, characterised their negotiations in the provinces. There, as a rule, the employers readily conceded the principle of shorter hours of labour, and the employed usually concurred in such arrangements as were most convenient for carrying on the business of the establishments in which they were engaged; here, on the contrary, a like spirit of mutual concession and accommodation does not seem to actuate either party—a state of things which, we think, is greatly to be regretted. As yet, the disputes in London are almost entirely confined to the engineering trade; but the movement is pretty sure to take a wider development ere long, and extend to most branches of skilled industry. Hence it is desirable that reason alone should be heard in the discussion, and that passion should be as entirely banished therefrom as possible. We therefore deprecate

stickling over non-essential points by the one side, and prosecutions that are not absolutely necessary by the other.

As we have shown on more than one occasion, the general activity of trade throughout the country (an activity to which official returns bear ample testimony), and the consequent prosperous condition of most branches of industry, warrant workmen in seeking to participate, either in the shape of time or money, in the advantages such a state of prosperous activity implies; and we think employers will act wisely, as well as justly, in frankly admitting, and endeavouring to satisfy, that claim without entertaining any *arrière pensée*; in other words, without seeking to stave off concession in the hope or expectation of “something turning up” to enable them to deny it altogether. We do not know that any such expectation is entertained; but we fear that, in some cases at least, a suspicion is prevalent among workmen that it is so. On no other rational ground is it possible to account for the haste of the workmen to realise their advantage, or for the disinclination they evince to wait till the completion of existing contracts and other circumstances render concession without loss practical for employers. On the other hand, if no foundation exists for this suspicion—or if the suspicion itself does not really obtain—and workmen are only bent on securing benefits to themselves irrespective

of the consequences to their employers, then, as it appears to us, the men are acting both unjustly and unwisely: unjustly, because a reasonable time should be allowed for employers to adjust their engagements to new conditions of the labour-market; and unwisely, because no benefit secured by labour can be permanent that is obtained to the detriment of capital. To destroy or frighten off capital is to kill the goose whose golden eggs pay the wages of labour; and it is in the highest degree desirable that working men should understand this—which, we fear, they are at present far from doing. “The contest between labour and capital” is a phrase very often used by those who affect to represent the former; and it is assumed that whatever labour can wring from capital is clear gain. A more fatal delusion could not exist, for what is loss to capital is never real gain to labour; and, vice versa, when labour is unduly depressed, capital is never—and cannot be—in a flourishing condition. “An equitable division of profits between labour and capital” would be an infinitely better watchword, for it would imply something really worth contending for.

And the general tendency of things just now is towards effecting such an equitable division. A reduction of the hours of labour, while wages remain unchanged, is practically such a readjustment of the division of profits; the



THE NEW CATTLE MARKET AT DEPTFORD: THE SHEEP SHED.—(SEE PAGE 41.)



state of trade warrants it; and, whether employers be willing or not, it must be conceded—if the existing prosperity of trade continues, as, so far as can be foreseen, it is likely to do. It is, therefore, as futile for masters to resist the claims of their workmen as it would be to strive against the operation of the law of gravitation. Active trade means full employment; full employment means scarcity of workmen; and scarcity of workmen means higher wages or shorter working hours. The one thing flows as inevitably from the other as effect results from cause. There is no room for opinion—for liking or for disliking—in the matter; the thing is the result of an unbending law, and must be accepted. But while we say this to the employers, we would also impress upon the employed that it is their duty, as it is for their interest and comfort, to accept the advantages the state of trade confers upon them in the form least calculated to disorder their employer's arrangements and least likely to interfere with his enterprises—that is to say, if workmen obtain ten hours' pay for nine hours' work, they should be content to work those nine hours according to whatever arrangement employers find most convenient. Having the solid advantage, it is not worth while for workmen to quarrel over the form in which the benefit accrues. But this, we fear, is a bit of common-sense upon which some workmen, or the managers of their trade affairs, are not disposed to act. Feeling, or fancying they feel, themselves masters of the situation, they seem inclined to "quarrel with their bread and butter," to use a homely phrase, and to strike about trifles that are not worth disputing over.

There have been, within a few days we believe, strikes (or lock-outs) in two engineering establishments in London—those of Messrs. Pontifex and Wood, Shoe-lane, and of Messrs. Gwynne, Hammersmith. In the one case the quarrel arose over insignificant points as to the daily division of time so as to make up the fifty-four hours per week; and in the other as to when the reduction of time should come into operation. It is unnecessary to discuss the particular points of quarrel, especially as—in the case of Pontifex and Wood, at all events—neither party seems to have understood the wishes of the other, if they quite understood their own. What we want to impress upon both sides is, that disputes over matters of detail are foolish when there is no question of principle to be decided; that employers should frankly yield shorter hours to their men, and that the men should as frankly fall in with their employers' views as to when the time agreed upon shall be worked; and that passion and irritating conduct should be studiously avoided by each.

The dispute between Messrs. Gwynne and their workmen illustrates what we mean. The latter applied for the nine hours' rule; the former conceded it, and fixed April 1 for its coming into operation, the reason given for the delay being that contracts had been undertaken on the basis of the old arrangement, and that the time mentioned was necessary for their completion. This, at first, appeared to satisfy the men; but, subsequently, they changed their minds, and determined to have their cake at once; and gave notice to quit work if the demand was not conceded. Messrs. Gwynne took them at their word; paid the wages due, and dismissed all who demurred to the delay—on the plea, however, that the rules of their establishment forbade men employed there belonging to a combination. Messrs. Gwynne called this a strike; the men called it a lock-out, and appealed to their fellow-workmen and the public for sympathy and support. And the mischief did not stop here. The workmen's appeal was embodied in a printed handbill, which certain of their number undertook to distribute; one man, named Turk, taking up a position for this purpose opposite Messrs. Gwynne's premises. This act was construed into one of "annoyance" under the terms of the Criminal Law Amendment Act, passed last Session of Parliament, and specially directed against the practice of "picketing" wont to be pursued by workmen on strike. Turk was summoned before the Hammersmith police magistrate, Mr. Ingham, who sentenced him to two months' imprisonment. This, we think, was somewhat of a straining of the law, or at least a very rigid interpretation of its provisions—a law, by-the-way, which we owe to that "revision of the crude legislation of the House of Commons" for which so much credit is claimed for the House of Lords, the clause of the bill having been so altered by Lord Cairns as to make one man constitute a "picket," instead of two or more, as originally proposed. The decision has since been appealed from, and Turk liberated on bail; so the point will come before a higher Court, and the law receive an authoritative interpretation. But where was the necessity for introducing this element of discord and irritation? Could not Messrs. Gwynne's workmen have waited till April for the advantage conceded to them? The Newcastle engineers, even though successful in the struggle with their employers, were content to wait as long. Why not those of Messrs. Gwynne? Even if determined to quit work till their wishes were agreed to, what need was there for affording ground for a charge of annoyance, and so provoking legal penalties, by haunting their late employers' premises and distributing partisan handbills there? Better have stayed away, and thereby have avoided the meshes of Lord Cairns's one-man-conspiracy clause of the Criminal Law Amendment Act. Then, why should Messrs. Gwynne have been so eager to seize upon an insignificant, though it may be indiscreet, act of one of their workmen, haul him before a police court, and do their best to consign him to prison? Would not a little moderation and forbearance, a little less disposition to take full advantage of the law, to strain it even, have become them better, and been a wiser and more humane course? We think so; and therefore, while we deprecate the refusal of

the workmen to wait till April, and let existing contracts be completed ere the change in the hours of labour came into force, we also deprecate Messrs. Gwynne's eagerness to enforce a law of questionable wisdom—certainly one of great harshness—and thereby further embitter a quarrel already sufficiently acrid. This, surely, is just one of those cases in which courts of arbitration might be of infinite service to both employers and employed; and we wish such courts were everywhere in operation. The perpetration of much folly and the creation of a great deal of bad feeling might thereby be avoided.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

The Government, last Saturday, paid to Prussia the first fortnightly instalment of 80 million francs, on account of the fourth half milliard of the war indemnity.

It is reported that M. Thiers has been in negotiation with the firms of Rothschild, of Paris; Thomas Gibbs and Co., of London; Sina, of Vienna; and a firm at St. Petersburg, each representing a number of capitalists, for a total sum of three milliards, plus the expenses, in Renten of 5 per cent, to be issued at the price of 87½. This operation is expected to be carried out from the date of May 1, 1873. This report requires confirmation.

The Committee on the Budget have pronounced in favour of a sinking fund to the amount of 200 million francs a year.

Strong opposition is being offered to M. Thiers's proposal to tax raw materials, which is joined in by the press, the chambers of commerce and agriculture, prominent, and the general public. The question is still under discussion in the Assembly.

The proposition of M. Picard, that the provisional state of affairs should now cease, and that the Republic should be definitively declared, has been rejected by the Radicals of the Left as inopportune and beyond the competence of the Assembly. The Government, it is stated, also regards the proposal as inopportune. M. de Neumours on Monday. He spoke a few words in favour of a fusion of the monarchical parties; but no representative of the Comte de Chambord was present.

It seems that the French prelates have joined together in a sort of crusade against the bill on primary instruction brought forward by M. Jules Simon. The Bishop of Beauvais has addressed a letter to the Assembly in which he declares that the want of education is by no means such a formidable danger to France as is generally supposed. He concludes his letter by urging that the instruction of the people should be exclusively confided to the Church.

The Military Commissions are rapidly examining the cases of the Communist prisoners, who are now divided into three categories. A considerable number are set at liberty daily, and the courts-martial will give judgment in all cases before three months have elapsed.

The committee on army reorganisation have decided that soldiers not knowing how to read or write at the expiration of the first year of their service shall remain with their regiments until they have acquired that knowledge.

General Cremer having appeared before the Judge at Beaune, he was immediately released. He has returned to Paris.

A Prussian was assassinated at Luneville some weeks ago, it is said, and the German authorities have demanded the extradition of the murderer, who is supposed to have fled to Switzerland.

The Minister of the Interior has prohibited the sale in the street of two Paris papers—the *Constitution* and the *Gauche*. This act is viewed with much disfavour by the rest of the press. Papers of all shades of political opinion join in censuring it. Remarks in that sense have already appeared in the *Avenir National*, the *Journal de Paris*, the *Gazette de Paris*, the *Paris Journal*, the *Ordre*, the *Liberté*, the *Bien Public*, the *Presse*, the *Radical*, the *Frangais*, the *Courrier de France*, the *Gazette de France*, the *Patrie*, the *Temps*, and the *Debats*.

SWITZERLAND.

The Council of States of Switzerland, on Wednesday, approved of the bill passed by the National Council for centralising the army administration under supreme Federal command.

ITALY.

The Minister of War proposes the construction of a manufactory of small arms in Central Italy, and the fortification of Elba, Sardinia, and Sicily.

The Chamber of Deputies has approved all the clauses of the Estimates of Revenue for 1872.

According to the *Riforma* of Rome, the Italian Government has it in contemplation to reduce the rate of inland postage from 20 to 10 centimes, and charge newspapers by weight.

SPAIN.

A Ministerial circular has been published, in which the governors of provinces are recommended to oppose by all legal means secret or declared adversaries of the institutions of the country. The circular demands vigilance against the International Society, but admits that the simple enunciation of the principles of the society are not punishable; nevertheless, association to realise those principles must be severely dealt with; and it is stated that the Cabinet absolutely accepts the declarations of the Malmayo Cabinet on this subject.

GERMANY.

Referring to a conference, held on Nov. 26 last, at the Ministry of Commerce, on the subject of social questions, the Berlin *Official Gazette*, in contradiction to some newspaper comments, says that no distinct proposals were submitted to the conference. No support was given to the idea of adopting a purely negative or a repressive attitude in dealing with social agitation; and any measures which it may be necessary to adopt for the benefit of the working classes will be reserved for future discussion.

HOLLAND.

The Upper House of the Dutch Parliament has ratified the treaty with England relative to the cession of Dutch possessions on the coast of Guinea.

SWEDEN.

The King opened the Reichstag in person on Wednesday. His Majesty, in the Speech from the Throne, alluded to the excellent financial condition of the country, and announced several Government bills for reducing various taxes. The King stated that the Reichstag would not have to look forward to an army reorganisation bill, but merely have to vote the ways and means for continuing the defence works. Last year's President and Vice-President of the Chamber were re-elected.

AUSTRIA.

Both Houses of the Reichsrath have adopted, without alteration, the Address to the Throne as framed by the Committees. The address, it may be remarked, is favourable to the policy on which the Government came into office.

Pesth journals publish news from Agram, according to which the compromise with the Croatian National party has failed. They demand the immediate dissolution of the Croatian Diet.

TURKEY.

There have been no fresh cases of cholera in Constantinople since Jan. 11, and the Council of Health has decided that clean bills of health will be granted.

The first railway train connecting Turkey with Europe, and skirting the Sea of Marmora, entered Stamboul on Tuesday, cross-

ing the old seraglio, and stopping at the terminus near the Custom House.

AMERICA.

The United States House of Representatives has passed a bill granting an amnesty to all persons engaged in the rebellion, except those who had previously been naval or military officers or members of Congress.

The assassin of Mr. Fisk has been indicted for murder. According to advices from Mexico, dated the 8th inst., Oajaca had been captured by the Government troops. Porfirio Diaz escaped.

INDIA.

General Bouchier reports from the Looshai expedition, on Jan. 12, lat. 23, long. 93, "All well." General Brownlow, on Jan. 10, was one march distant from Syloo Savoonga. Colonel Macpherson had made a raid north and stormed a village strongly stockaded. Our loss was one Ghorka killed and an officer and nine men wounded.

The King of Siam arrived in Calcutta last Saturday, and was received with high honours. His Majesty was afterwards welcomed by the Viceroy in a brilliant durbar.

There has been a serious outbreak of Kookas near Loodiana. Some Punjab mutineers attacked the Malod Fort, and killed two men and wounded a sirdar. Troops were ordered promptly from Delhi. The native chiefs Puttiala and Nubba rendered effective assistance. One hundred Kookas were killed and a large number made prisoners. Orders have been given to capture the chiefs. The outbreak is now considered to be completely suppressed. The Kookas are a Hindoo caste that recently attacked the Mohammedan butchers.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

Advices from the Cape state that gold is being found in the Transvaal, and that the yield of diamonds is increasing.

FISCAL PHILOSOPHY IN FRANCE.

LAST Saturday the French National Assembly resumed the seemingly interminable debate on the Budget; and, after M. Claude had attacked the Government, M. Thiers mounted the tribune. He said:—

"I have a hard task, and must ask to be heard patiently. I fancy that the Assembly desires to arrive at some decision. Nothing can be more difficult. However, I will do my best. All kinds of taxes have been condemned during the discussion. Nothing has been left standing of all the proposals made, and yet it is necessary to act. It is indispensable to find not so many millions, but to save the existence of France. A cruel war has left us in a desperate condition, and a portion of our territory has remained in the hands of the enemy. After foreign war came civil war. We must find resources to pay our debts, and great efforts are required. It is necessary to raise 650,000,000. by new taxes—charges unheard of in the history of any country. Devotion and self-sacrifice are necessary. Some, in despair at the idea of new taxes, demand economy. It is asked, for example, why not reduce the army estimates? Why a sinking fund in our present condition? As for economies, we have saved 120,000,000. on the general Budget within a year, and I do not think more can be done. As for the War Budget, we will discuss that, and you will see that for the last thirty years we have been living under delusions which I have often endeavoured to dissipate. I have never ceased saying to friend and foe—One day you will cruelly regret the way in which the interests of the army are neglected. One day we shall have a terrible surprise. It is some consolation to think that we are about to shake off these illusions, which allowed us to sleep on the brink of an abyss and believe we were strong when we were weak. However, you will hear the report of the committees, and then you will decide. There is another point—the sinking fund—which astonishes some people. As regards this, I will call your attention to those two free countries, America and England. America pays off 500,000,000. a year; and Mr. Gladstone, in paying off 130,000,000. of a debt not so large as ours a few years ago, said, 'I am far from thinking that we have done our duty towards future generations,' &c. The 200,000,000. does not represent a real sinking fund; it will go to pay off the debt to the Bank, and allow it to reduce its paper circulation. There is no filigree work in our Budget; nothing but serious figures. Every possible care has been taken in drawing up the various estimates, and all the soundest authorities in the country have been consulted, and I am sure that you will find it necessary to vote the taxes we demand, because they alone can furnish the sums required, and that you will arrive at the opinion that they will have no disastrous effect on the country. I am not the author, but I am the approver, of the financial plan which has been laid before you, and I think I am an enlightened judge. Pardon me if I speak of myself in such terms. Often I have been praised too much, but in this I praise myself in good faith. In presence of 650,000,000. to be raised, the first thing to do was to find out what objects were insufficiently taxed. First, the direct taxation was examined, and it was found that of all property land had suffered the most during the war. Indirect taxes were then examined, and an extra duty was placed upon sugar and coffee. Coffee pays a duty as high as its price, and sugar pays 41,000,000. more than formerly. The duty on alcohol has been raised from 90f. to 150f., which, with the extra duty on beer, is an augmentation of 71,000,000. The best quality of tobacco is also taxed more highly, and has furnished a resource of 10,000,000. Railway transport produced 20,000,000., and double that amount is now levied. The Post Office produces 22,000,000. extra, and the tax on paper furnishes 10,000,000. Not to enumerate any further, we have arrived at a total of 366,000,000. of new taxes; and they have been so judiciously selected that they yield what was expected, and some will probably yield more. But 366,000,000. is not enough; we still require 250,000,000. Other taxes were capable of producing 50,000,000., but that was not enough to balance the Budget. We therefore thought of taxing raw material, which is not a novel invention. The committee has rejected this, and I understand the scruples. As regards an income tax, I objected strongly to that, and upon that point I acknowledge that I am obstinate. A tax upon revenue would be socialism by means of an impost. This kind of socialism alone is dangerous, because it puts on sheep's clothing and seduces honest people. We must be impartial. We came to stock. I do not like, but still I do not reject, a tax on this kind of property, which would probably produce 32,000,000. M. Thiers then contrasted the proposed duty of 3 per cent on raw material and the Government 20 per cent with drawback. "The difference is," he continued, "that the 3 per cent duty is radically condemned by treaties while the drawback is permitted;" and, after arguing in favour of the Government system, M. Thiers greatly astonished the Chamber by saying:—"I think that the yoke of these treaties is deplorable, and to escape from it we shall no doubt have the aid of England, who tells us every day that the treaties have been imposed by France and that she does not desire them. If (added M. Thiers) the modifications which we demand are granted, I shall propose to you to continue the treaty; but if England and the other Powers prefer to be released, I shall be delighted for my country; and I hope that, having heard me, you will be the same."

After criticising some other plans submitted to the Chamber, M. Thiers proceeded to declare that the duty on raw material would fall on the lower classes four or five times less heavily than on others. "It is not my tax," he went on to say, "but that of necessity. With the 20 per cent and drawback we shall perhaps be able to obtain 170,000,000. or 180,000,000. It effects all classes imperceptibly and is easily collected." M. Thiers then went into a long statement respecting the difference which his 20 per cent duty would make in various articles, and again dwelt on the beauty of the Government system, which, unlike many of the plans proposed to the Chamber, had been tried before; it would produce, he added, abundant and certain resources without imposing any perceptible charges on industry, and it would afford a

real protection to French agriculture. The President of the Republic terminated his long speech by an appeal to the Chamber to continue to observe the truce of Bordeaux.

M. de Lasteyrie, in addressing the National Assembly in the name of the Committee on the Budget, explained why they objected to the measures proposed by the Government. At the end of his speech he made use of the following words, which will give you a fair idea of the whole of it. "I am a Liberal, and I cannot accept the 20 per cent duty. You have before you four systems: the tax on items of income, which is just; the decime on existing taxes, which is the most unjust of all; the duty on salt, which is the most unpopular; and the duty on raw material, which is the most damaging. Take your choice."

HAMPSTEAD-HEATH.

LAST Saturday was appointed by the Metropolitan Board of Works for taking formal possession of Hampstead-heath, and for dedicating the same to the public; and, had the weather been propitious, it would no doubt have proved, if not an imposing, at least an interesting ceremony. It was arranged that the members of the Metropolitan Board should meet at the Hampstead-heath station of the North London Railway, that being the southern boundary of the property, and thence perambulate on foot the boundaries of the heath, which had been marked out by flags; but, in consequence of the state of the weather, except at given points, where particular observation was necessary, this part of the programme had to be abandoned, and the perambulation mainly took place along the accessible roads in covered conveyances. The members of the Metropolitan Board, headed by Colonel Hogg, M.P., its chairman, with Mr. John Pollard, secretary; some of the sub-surveyors, with Mr. McKenzie, landscape-gardener to the board, and other officials, arrived at the Hampstead-heath station at one o'clock, and were there received by Mr. Le Breton, their Hampstead colleague, with the churchwardens, a number of the members of the Hampstead vestry, accompanied by Mr. Lowe, their chief surveyor, the vestry clerk, &c. Spots were pointed out on the lower heath as most eligible to be adapted and properly prepared as a new and most extensive cricket-ground, and two new donkey-rides were also suggested. Certain recent encroachments and inclosures were pointed out, which gave rise to a generally-expressed opinion that the Metropolitan Board had not stepped in to secure the property for the public a day too soon. Upon reaching the summit of the heath where the flagstaff is situate, in close vicinity to Jack Straw's Castle, the exceedingly brief ceremony took place of declaring that the Metropolitan Board of Works had taken possession of its property, and that it was to be dedicated to the use of the public. Colonel Hogg, M.P., the Chairman of the Metropolitan Board, did this in a few observations. He congratulated the Metropolitan Board and the inhabitants of the metropolis generally that so beautiful and healthful a site had been procured, and declared that from that time Hampstead-heath was dedicated to the free use and recreation of the people for ever, and expressed a hope that it would always prove that blessing which had been so long and fondly desired by the great metropolitan community. At the conclusion of this part of the ceremony the company adjourned to Jack Straw's Castle, where a dejeuner had been provided at the expense of the Hampstead vestry. The Rev. Charlton Lane, the Vicar of Hampstead, presided, and was supported by the churchwardens, Mr. Le Breton, and a number of the local gentry. There was a large assemblage of the Metropolitan Board of Works members, including Mr. Turner, Mr. Freeman, Mr. Bevan, Mr. Furness, Captain Dresser Rogers, Mr. Runtz, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Newton, &c. The rev. chairman, in proposing "the health of Colonel Hogg, the chairman, and the Metropolitan Board," referred to the various works of great public beauty as well as utility in which they had been engaged. The people of London might now point to the Thames Embankment with pride, and challenge foreigners from whatever quarter of the globe they came to compete with it. It was a work which, either from a scientific or any other point of view, the people of this country might look upon with pleasure as a great achievement. The Main Drainage was another of those great works which did honour to the local government of the metropolis. The Board of Works had clearly shown that they had taken a very deep interest in the Hampstead districts. The Hampstead authorities had regarded themselves as mere pickets, bound to give notice to the general army (the central board) of any movement which might require immediate attention, and no doubt their vigilance had had something to do with securing Hampstead-heath to the public. They had done much, but more was still to be done, and he trusted that the Metropolitan Board would save the whole of Hampstead-heath to the public for ever. It was not for Hampstead alone, but the whole metropolis, that this had been done, and he had no doubt that the public generally would prove themselves grateful. Colonel Hogg, M.P., in returning thanks, said the public were not to suppose, now that it had come into the hands of the Metropolitan Board, that they intended to make the heath into a London park. It was considered that the beauty of the heath consisted in its wild and unsophisticated appearance, and as such they intended to keep it. To reserve it as an open space for the health and recreation of the public was the main object, and that had been accomplished. However remote, he hoped that the whole metropolis would accord in the opinion that by the preservation of Hampstead-heath a general benefit had been conferred upon them. Some other toasts followed.

The Hampstead vestry has already appealed to the Board of Works against the encroachments which are taking place all round the heath since it was bought by the board. The following appeal was addressed to the vestry by fifty-nine of the artists of London:—

Jan. 11, 1872.

We, the undersigned artists, having learnt that the Metropolitan Board of Works have omitted from their recent purchase of Hampstead-heath many very important pieces of ground, and that your vestry are taking steps in the matter, would urgently represent the great loss to the picturesque beauty of the heath if these pieces were inclosed or cut off from the public ground. We are intimately acquainted with the different beauties of the heath, and feel strongly that these beauties would sustain great injury should any buildings be erected on the above-mentioned pieces of ground. We therefore most earnestly request you to use every means to secure them for the public. We would also our great desire that the heath should be left as nearly as possible in its present wild state, to alter which would, in our opinion, be a grievous mistake.

STATE OF THE THAMES AT RICHMOND.—A deputation, on Monday, waited upon the Thames Conservancy Board to complain of the polluted state of the river in the neighbourhood of Richmond, Twickenham, Isleworth, Brentford, &c. Captain Donnan, of Twickenham, said that the hardship complained of was that the water was taken out of the river above Twickenham and Richmond by the water companies to such an extent as greatly to diminish the resistance offered to the flood tide, in consequence of which immense quantities of mud were deposited upon the banks during the summer. The chairman of the board promised a thorough reconsideration of the whole subject.

A NEW NONCONFORMIST ASSOCIATION.—A conference of Nonconformists was held on Monday at Accrington, Lancashire, and attended by 150 gentlemen from several towns in North-East Lancashire. A resolution was carried, on the motion of the Rev. T. Kench, Burnley, seconded by the Rev. S. F. Williams, Newchurch, forming a Nonconformist Association for North-East Lancashire, which would undertake, in co-operation with similar associations, to promote the exposition and advocacy of the principles of Protestant dissent, and the application of religious equality to education and ecclesiastical affairs of the nation. On the motion of the Rev. Charles Williams, Accrington, seconded by the Rev. E. Heath, Blackburn, the following resolution was carried:—"That a memorial be prepared, to be signed by the chairman, and presented to Mr. Gladstone, to the effect that, as Protestants and Nonconformists, we earnestly protest against the extension of public aid to denominational schools by the Elementary Education Act, and respectfully submit that justice to the supporters of the Government demands the repeal of the 26th clause, and the immediate consideration of the question whether the time has not come for the withdrawal of all State grants from schools under the control of denominational management."

THE MEMBERS FOR BRIGHTON ON PUBLIC AFFAIRS.

MR. JAMES WHITE and Mr. Fawcett delivered their annual addresses to their constituents, on Monday, in the Corn Exchange, Brighton.

Mr. White, who was very cordially received, commenced with a grateful reference to his restoration to health, and then proceeded to notice the proceedings of the past Session of Parliament. He laid great stress upon the abolition of purchase in the Army. Differing from many of his political friends, he cordially thanked the Government for the exercise of the Royal prerogative, apart from the great importance of that measure to the reform of the Army, and expressed his gratitude for it assaving the House from the "damnable iteration" of last year's debates, and members from a repetition of the dismal diatribes of officers and others who so pertinaciously opposed the abolition of purchase. Passing next to his opposition to the Budget, he humorously referred to the snubbing which he received from both ins and outs, especially from Mr. Disraeli, who sharply rebuked him for presuming to think that he knew more about the finances of the country than the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Adhering to the opinion he expressed in the House of Commons, that Mr. Lowe had enlarged his estimates of expenditure because the Alabama claims were looming in the future, he reminded his auditors that he was the first member who called attention to the disastrous evasion of the Alabama question, and expressed his confidence that a sum of four or five millions would be sufficient to satisfy all the claims which the Americans could establish against us. The Ballot Bill he regarded as the most important political measure which would engage the attention of Parliament next Session, and that measure he hoped to see improved upon. Apart from this, the legislation of the year was likely to be mainly of a social character, and must, in his opinion, include a licensing bill, a mines regulation bill, a bill for the abolition of the truck system (an announcement which was received with more applause than any other), and the revision, if not the repeal, of the Criminal Law Amendment Act of last year. He was not, he confessed, quite satisfied with the state of our representative system, and looked to an assimilation of the franchise in counties and boroughs. But his utterances on the educational question were almost more distinct than any other. With reference to England, he expressed his satisfaction that the Nonconformists had announced their intention to ask for the repeal of the obnoxious clauses in the Act of last Session. He had always opposed denominational education in England and Scotland, and therefore he was entitled to pronounce against it in Ireland, and to declare that, should her Majesty's Government, as was reported to be their intention, bring in any measure to give effect to the public declarations of the Roman Catholic prelates, he should record his vote against them, even though that vote should exclude them from office. He would never willingly consent to commit the education of Ireland to the Irish clergy. As to the position of the Government, he admitted that it had been guilty of many shortcomings and backslidings; he expressed some doubt whether the advanced Liberal party made sufficient allowances for the exigencies of office, and properly considered that the Ministry did not represent exclusively the members below the gangway, but the Liberal party in its entirety, beginning from the Marquis of Hartington and ending with their friend Mr. Odger. If the Government was to move forward it must have among its men who would actively support instead of secretly thwart measures. The hon. gentleman concluded by referring, amid loud cheers, to the return of Mr. Bright to Parliament, and alluding to the opinion which had sometimes been expressed that Mr. Bright had lost influence by taking office, he declared that when the Ethiopian changed his skin and the leopard his spots then he would believe that Mr. Bright would falter in his support of the good measures to which he had devoted his life.

Mr. Fawcett, who was loudly cheered, after a brief reference to the past Session and to the question of law reform, said that unless men were willing to sacrifice everything to party exigencies and political intrigue, Parliament must be asked to express its opinion upon the recent appointment of Sir R. Collier to the Judicial Committee. It would, he said, be far better that a dozen Administrations should fall than that Parliament should sanction the act of lawlessness involved in the colourable evasion of a positive legal enactment. He would no doubt be told that he was always opposing the Government. "Well (the hon. member said), if it can be shown that in opposing the Government I have ever knowingly acted in antagonism to any principle of true Liberalism, then I shall justly deserve your censure, and it will be your duty to tell me that I no longer possess your confidence. Oppose the Government! I have done so in the past, and I will do so again when I observe that their economy is one-sided and their retrenchments are partial—when I find that they retain sinecures for the rich; when they waste public money by mismanagement and maladministration; when I know that their financial proposals, by levying a tax from one class, disastrously relax the checks upon extravagance, and are thus fraught with the gravest peril to the country. Mr. Fawcett went on to say that it was his intention to redeem the promise he gave of reintroducing the Dublin University Bill when Parliament reassembled, and he hoped that the Government would not repeat their tactics of last Session, and assist those who, afraid to meet a direct issue, got rid of the measure by talking it out. The Education Act, Mr. Fawcett said, he had always considered as a feeble and timorous compromise, and it is now seen that the rural districts will be almost entirely unaffected by the measure. He hoped that as the principle of the Factory Acts had been extended to every branch of industry except agriculture, this particular employment would no longer be permitted to be thus exceptionally treated. With respect to the Permissive Bill, Mr. Fawcett said that nothing whatever would induce him to vote for it. Rather than support it he would infinitely sooner never enter the House of Commons again. He valued political liberty; but, if possible, he valued individual liberty more. He would carefully and candidly consider any Licensing Bill that might be proposed, but he had long thought that the solution of the question was to be looked for in the words which were so wisely spoken by Lord Derby the other evening. Referring to Sir Charles Dilke's speech at Newcastle, Mr. Fawcett said that though there were some things in the speech which he disapproved, yet he believed that Sir Charles had been most unfairly attacked. Knowing him intimately ever since he was a student at Cambridge, Mr. Fawcett said he could perhaps, with as much confidence as anyone, vouch for the sterling integrity and for the fearless independence of his character. Everyone who valued freedom of discussion should protest against the efforts which had been made to suppress his speeches. For many reasons, however, the hon. member added, I hold that it is unwise to raise the question of Republicanism at this particular time, and I further desire most distinctly to state that those who raise the question should be careful not to employ any language which can possibly be supposed to imply a personal attack upon the Queen; and, above all things, I am anxious that Republicans should not treat the subject as a mere question of expense, but should adequately appreciate the great social and moral issues which are at stake. Republicanism should not involve a haggling over a few thousand pounds, but it should be regarded as the consistent carrying out of the vitally-important maxim, "Merit, not birth." Mr. Fawcett, after speaking at some length on India, and warning his hearers that if that question continued to be neglected as it had been, it would before long disturb every English home from John o'Groat's to Land's End, concluded by referring to the new "social movement." He warned the working classes against being misled by delusive promises, and against being tempted to seek the amelioration of their condition from agencies which are only calculated to impede real social and material progress.

A vote of confidence in both members was unanimously carried, and Professor Fawcett was specially thanked for his vote against the granting of a dowry to Princess Louise.

THE PROPOSED MEMORIAL TO BARONESS BURDETT-COUTTS.

A CROWDED and enthusiastic public meeting was held, on Monday evening, in the hall of Columbia Market (by permission of the Corporation of the City), to further consider the question of presenting a memorial to Baroness Burdett-Coutts, and to give the working men of the district an opportunity of expressing their sentiments upon the question. The meeting was mainly composed of the working classes. Alderman Sir Thomas Dakin took the chair. He said he felt perfectly satisfied that they had but one sentiment towards their benefactress—one of respect and gratitude. Not of one particular class alone was the Baroness the benefactress, but of the whole human race. She was, in truth, one of Nature's true nobility, and her high character could not gain additional lustre from any honour, however great, conferred upon her, nor could her own modest, humane, and virtuous actions be enhanced by it. They should not be proud of Baroness Burdett-Coutts solely as the foundress of Columbia Market, but they should bear in mind how much honour was due to her for her generous support to the colonial bishoprics, for the large sums of money she had expended in erecting churches and schools, and for the relief to suffering humanity at large which she had so profusely administered. The working classes were fully alive, he well believed, to her virtues. No doubt it was a matter of some delicacy to offer a testimonial to such a lady, who sought but one reward—the inward consciousness of having done good to her fellow-beings. However, it devolved upon them now to show, in a proper manner, their appreciation of her services. The Rev. Mr. Wellstead, in an eloquent speech, in which he paid a high tribute to the estimable qualities of the Baroness, proposed—"That this meeting pledges itself generally to support this movement and to confirm what the committee has done." The motion having been seconded by Mr. Bicester, it was supported by Mr. Lucraft, of the London School Board, who said he regretted that long since some public recognition had not been made by the working classes of the services rendered to their order by Sir Francis Burdett, the father of Baroness Burdett-Coutts. The resolution was carried. Mr. Mayhew moved and Mr. Wyatt seconded the appointment of a committee to collect subscriptions. The seconder of the resolution thought that the benevolence of the Baroness had been so universal that the movement ought not to be confined to London, but extended to the provinces. The chairman advised the meeting to do their part first, and then others would follow their example. The resolution was passed. Mr. Shields moved—"That an acceptable memorial be presented to Baroness Burdett-Coutts." Mr. Thomas seconded the motion, which was passed amid loud cheers. The Rev. Mr. McGachen moved and Mr. Peat seconded a vote of thanks to the Corporation of London for the use of the hall. The chairman, when putting the motion to the meeting, took occasion to say that the Corporation of the city of London would leave no stone unturned to devote the noble gift of the market to the best interests of that neighbourhood. The resolution was passed, and the usual compliment to the chairman brought the proceedings to a close.

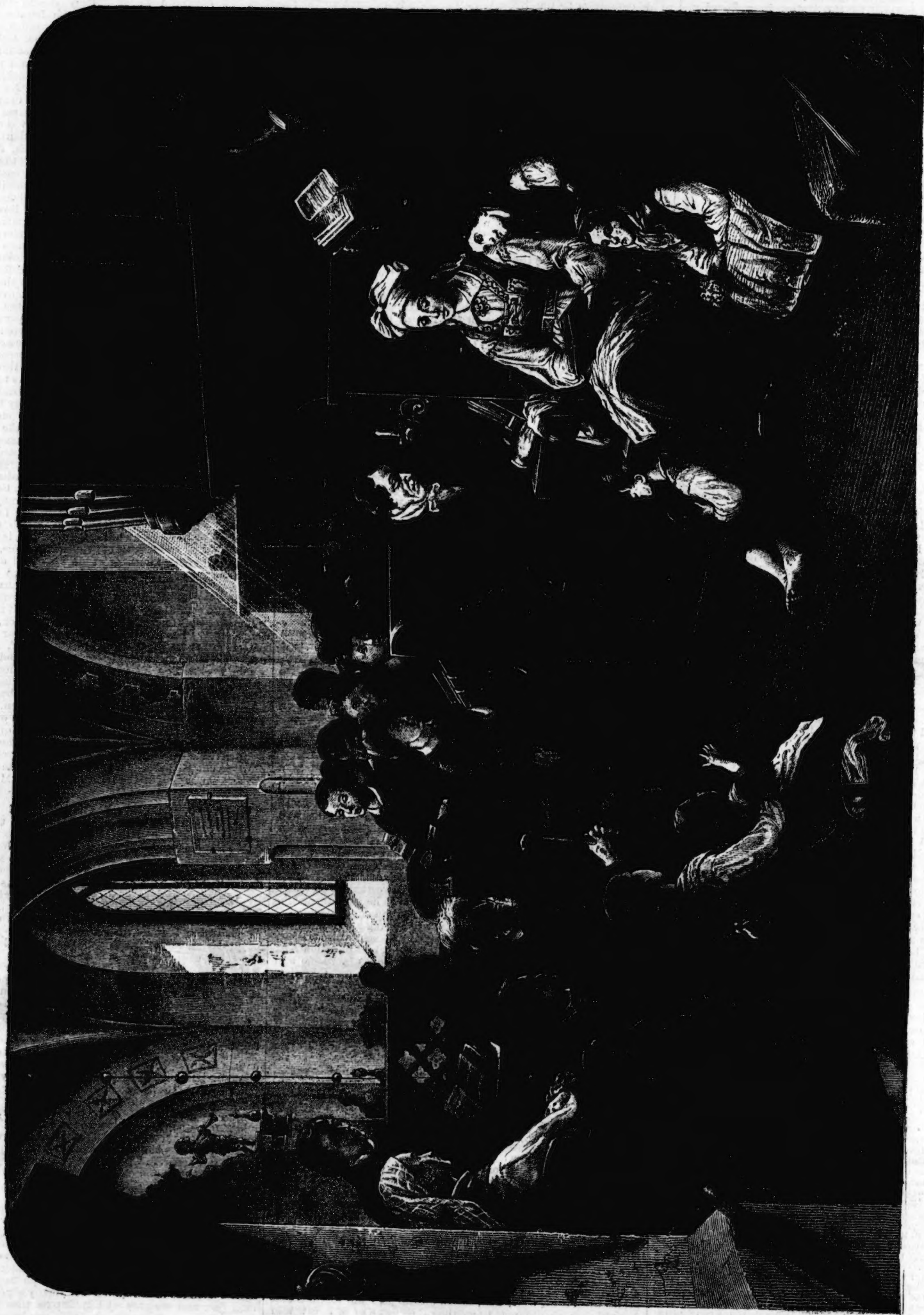
A very handsome gold casket has been prepared by Messrs. Hunt and Roskell, the jewellers, of New Bond-street, to be presented shortly to Lady Burdett-Coutts by the Corporation of the city of London, in commemoration of the transfer of Columbia Market to them. It will be handed to her Ladyship with the resolution of the Market Committee, which it is intended to inclose. The box, of which it chiefly consists, is supported by four winged figures, emblematic of Prudence, Justice, Temperance, and Fortitude, executed with great delicacy and artistic skill. Between the figures the sides of the casket are divided into eight panels, on seven of which are engraved tableaux of the Seven Acts of Mercy—"Feeding the Hungry," "Giving Drink to the Thirsty," "Clothing the Naked," "Visiting the Captive," "Lodging the Homeless," "Visiting the Sick," and "Burying the Dead." The eighth and centre panel bears the arms and supporters of her Ladyship chased in high relief, and with heraldic colours in enamel, which give great variety and brightness to the whole work. The lid is domed, and surmounted by the City arms. In front of it is an engraving of a fishing scene, in allusion to the foundation of the market, and at the back is the following inscription:—"Presented to the Right Hon. Angela Georgina Baroness Burdett-Coutts, by the Corporation of London, in commemoration of the transfer by her Ladyship of Columbia Market to the Corporation." Round the edge are the words, "Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in heaven." On the inside of the lid is an engraving of the front of Columbia Market.

AT A COUNTRY CHURCH IN SWEDEN.

THE picture from which our Engraving is taken is another of those admirable works of the Dusseldorf school of which we have already published several examples. In beauty of finish, in clear intensity of colour, and in admirable expression it may be regarded as one of Nordenberg's best paintings. It is richly suggestive of the country where the scene is laid, and its truthful rendering may be accepted as a thorough illustration of life among the Swedish people. The cold bright light darting into the old church; the quaint Sunday dresses of the women; the rather still and almost melancholy expression which belongs to a people living far in the frozen North; the large organ, whereat the sober chapel-master sits and plays the anthem, so full of worship to the listeners, who take seats near the choir of chubby singing boys, all combine to make a picture such as fixes itself on the imagination, and makes us participate in the scene presented to our observation. There is much that is picturesque in the country life of Sweden; much that is grave but hearty and courteous in the manners of the people; much that is very attractive in the quaint costumes of the women. The houses are unpretending, often only one-storied wooden cottages, of a dull red colour with red roofs, while the churches are squat, ugly buildings enough. These red villages look strangely sombre amidst the black-green of the fir woods. In our Engraving, however, the church is rather that of a country town—an imposing large white building, perhaps, with four little towers at the corners, and standing in the midst of a village of low red stables, in which the country people shelter their horses while attending service. In most of the Swedish country churches the belfry stands apart—a squat, square tower, painted red, with a black upper story—and is sometimes larger than the church itself. The houses of the peasants are compact red shanties, without a cranny through which the wind can enter, and with roofs of thick thatch, kept down by long horizontal poles. The stables are banked up with earth as high as the hayloft, and the cattle enter their subterranean stalls through sloping doorways like those of the Egyptian tombs. The people are, however, comfortably dressed, frugal, hearty, hospitable; and are fast becoming educated, under the system of which we saw some examples at our International Exhibition, in the "Swedish Schoolhouse." The pictures of the Dusseldorf artists have made us familiar with many aspects of Swedish common life, and we may well anticipate that these people will be brought nearer to us by the facilities recently opened for excursions in the grand old country of Odin, Thor, and Freya.

JAMES PETTINGALL, who stands charged, upon the Coroner's inquisition, with the manslaughter of his wife by purposely thrusting her beneath the wheels of a brewer's dray on London Bridge, but who had absconded, has been arrested. He was taken by one of the City detectives at King's-cross station. He was brought before the Lord Mayor, on Tuesday, and remanded.

THE MEDICAL EDUCATION OF WOMEN.—At an adjourned meeting of the contributors to the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary, held on Monday, it was agreed upon, by a majority of 232 to 227, to approve of a report which expresses the hope that some plan may speedily be devised by the managers which shall admit of the ladies receiving medical instructions in the infirmary, without prejudice to the male students. A scrutiny of the votes was demanded. The scrutiny of the votes recorded on Jan. 1 confirms the decision then declared as to the election of managers favourable to the lady students.



A SWEDISH CHURCH ON SUNDAY MORNING.



NEW YEAR'S MINSTRELS PERFORMING IN A BAVARIAN BREWERY TAP.

NEW-YEAR'S MINSTRELS IN BAVARIA.

THERE are two accomplishments the possession of which nobody can deny to the Bavarian. He is a practical and copious connoisseur of beer of a strong and casky sort, and he can challenge the world to beat him at blowing into brazen instruments of—well, let us say of music. The Bavarian is born a "cornist" or a "trombonist;" and though sometimes he consents to occupy himself with a clarinet or a double bass, it is only in consideration of promoting the general harmony; just as he would, perhaps, put up with Bass or Allsopp, in default of a thicker beverage with that fine pitchy, tanyard flavour which so often characterises his favourite potations. With these two peculiarities of his in view, it may be imagined that the celebration of the new year reaches its culmination when a band of wandering minstrels take possession of the great common room of one of the mighty breweries, and there, amidst an audience already deep in the discussion of unnumbered "chops" of malt liquor, discourse their instrumental carols, while a band of taper-bearing choristeresses chant a vocal accompaniment.

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THE REV. JOHN SELBY WATSON.

BRITISH public opinion is as illogical in regard to the treatment of criminal procedure by the press as it is in some other matters. It is highly indecorous, and may even be contempt of Court, to comment upon the question of the guilt or innocence of a particular individual if the trial before a jury is yet in progress; but the moment the prisoner is sentenced, or the decision of the Court recorded, any human being may say what he likes about the case in print. At the present moment the question whether Mr. Watson shall be hanged or not rests with the Home Office and the Queen. Practically, these constitute a tribunal of expediency, as open to ordinary motives and ordinary grounds of appeal as any Judge or jury in the world. Yet, though it would have been held improper to intervene while the case was before a jury, anybody may meddle now that it is before another tribunal. To point out a most important flaw in evidence as placed before a jury might be a contempt of Court while the jury was sitting; but the moment after the verdict is given everybody's pen or tongue is free.

We are not going to try to make sense of this, but simply to use the common privilege of journalists and others in behalf of Mr. Watson, whom we believe to have been an irresponsible agent at the moment at which he beat out the life of the unfortunate lady. It is utterly wide of the mark to urge, as the *locum tenens* of the Attorney-General did, that the prisoner was "sane" immediately before and immediately after the act. Though Mr. Denman avowed his inability to understand the criticism, one of the medical witnesses was perfectly right in saying that the crucial point, as laid down by the very highest legal authorities, was as absurd a test of insanity as could possibly be invented—even by a lawyer. A criminal may perfectly well know that what he does is wrong, and yet be outrageously mad at the time. Double consciousness is one of the most clearly established facts of morbid brain-action. One of the least uncommon forms of madness consists in the presence of uncontrollable impulse to do something which is at the same time recognised as wrong and opposed to the law. Hence the frequent instances in which persons liable to fits of insane violence have been known to petition before and for the application of restraint to their actions. Homicidal mania is frequently accompanied by the clearest possible consciousness that murder is a crime; the very essence of the madness is the tendency—in a mind which, when sane, is kindly and gentle—to commit acts of cruelty in the teeth of its knowledge that such acts are criminal. We heartily allow the danger to society of admitting the consideration of facts of this kind into criminal jurisprudence. Nobody denies it. But, on the other hand, what human being is prepared to affirm that they should never be taken into account?

The conduct of Mr. Watson, both before and after the "murder," was marked not only by many features of sanity, but also by traces of great acuteness and delicate conscientiousness. But so much the stronger is the case in favour of his insanity at the moment of the deed; especially when we bear in mind two or three things:—First, the absurdly unnecessary amount of violence which accompanied it; secondly, the incoherent and feeble ingenuity of his subsequent precautions; and, thirdly, that he never attempted to run away or secrete himself. Anything more profoundly silly than his excuses to the servant, the attempt at suicide, the ordering and countermanding of the packing-case, the remaining on the spot, and the inditing of those minutely cautious and conscientious written messages can hardly be conceived. The counsel for the prosecution said, for substance, "See how wonderfully sane all this is!" We, on the contrary, exclaim, If the man who was capable of all this insane sanity was not most subtly and profoundly mad, then there never was a madman in any Bedlam that the world ever saw. There is a naturalised French word which at a

stroke characterises the whole of Watson's procedure—it is *bonhomie* or naïveté. The *bonhomie* of a miserable man, with a consciousness inside a consciousness, Chinese-ball fashion; but most distinctly madness.

The reader will carefully bear in mind that the question, What should be done with a criminal lunatic? is one thing, and the question, What is lunacy in criminals? another. It is quite an arguable proposition that, for the protection of society, a criminal lunatic should be hanged; but is the law, as laid down and interpreted, in a satisfactory condition? Can it be safely, conscientiously, reasonably, and consistently worked by Judges and juries? All the considerations we have been raising apply to a case like that of Christiana Edmunds as well as that of Mr. Watson, and most difficult are the questions they raise. Suppose it admitted that, in the case of that most horrible murderess there was true insanity, and that the motives of action to which law appeals were in a deranged condition,—and we have no doubt it was so,—suppose this admitted, how is the line (clear enough to the psychologist, perhaps) which distinguishes her case from that of William Palmer to be drawn in law? Again, suppose, in spite of the proved fact that several of the woman's relations were insane, it is held doubtful whether she was so or not—on what principle are we to lay it down that upon the question of the mere committing of a criminal act the prisoner is to have the benefit of a doubt, while on that of the state of mind at the time of the deed's being committed the prisoner is not to have the benefit of a doubt? Our object is not to submit any theory for the treatment of insane criminals, whether murderous or not. But the ruling that if a criminal knows he is doing wrong at the moment of committing the crime he is not insane, is exposed to serious difficulties, theoretical and practical. For, first, one of the most well-recognised and most dangerous forms of insanity consists in uncontrollable impulse to commit certain crimes in the teeth of knowledge of the consequences; and, secondly, it is absolutely impossible, especially in a case of sudden murder, to determine whether the insane person knew just then what he was doing or not.

OFFICERS' EXPENSES.

"A GENERAL OFFICER" writes as follows:—"The abolition of the purchase system opens the Army door to men who heretofore from want of means were excluded from serving their country as officers. This country is covered with young men always, whose parents necessarily live up to their income (country gentlemen, clergymen, officers of the Army and Navy, serving or retired, with countless others), the very class of men that are required, and who have not hitherto been able to pay for the whims and caprices of extravagant commanding officers, extravagant regimental systems, extravagant messes, overloaded luggage equipments, extravagant bands, and such like. Under such systems, if a commanding officer did not point-blank tell an indigent officer, whatever his military qualifications might be, that he would not do for his regiment, which was commonly the case, the prevailing extravagant systems of corps render the whole concern too hot for a poor man to exist in. Nevertheless, the abolition of the purchase system in an Army consisting almost entirely of moneyed men could not be otherwise than unpopular with those serving in it. It could not be very agreeable to men who had embarked in any concern by an investment of money to find that the ground of their speculation had fallen from under them. Their speculation has, in fact, entirely failed with those who had calculated solely on their money as their means of promotion and preferment. The writer, therefore, who is, or was, an advocate for the abolition of the purchase system, has no very agreeable occupation in giving his sentiments for the perusal of existing military bodies. The next step now in Army Reform is strictly to prohibit officers ever appearing out of their barracks in quarters otherwise than in uniform. This would very materially lighten their kit for them, and the only exception to that rule should be field sports. Many exercises should not be discouraged, and their extra equipments for hunting and shooting should be allowed, provided there was no important addition to the impedimenta, efficiency for active service being the ruling principle of military life. The Commander-in-Chief of the Army in London should appear at his levées in uniform, and all officers, except half-pay officers, should attend such levées in like manner. The officers of the Household Brigades, too, should always be in uniform. Soldiers are not allowed to appear abroad out of uniform, neither should their officers, and they would soon get accustomed to it. I consider it essentially necessary to military efficiency that the weight of an officer's baggage should be limited to 60wt., and a sufficiency of barrack furniture should be provided by Government. Sir Charles Napier's 'bit of soap and a towel' is carrying economy in Army equipment too far. As to carpeting officers' bed-rooms, I would never allow it. All bed-rooms ought to be kept constantly washed with soap and water in civil or military life, and the soldier's servant is the man for that in barracks. As to messes, mess kits should be almost if not altogether abolished. Formerly we had no mess kits. Each officer's servant laid on the mess table, which was of course provided by Government, his tumbler and wine-glasses, knives, forks, and spoons, with plates (all of a regimental pattern); while the messman provided lights, table-cloths, dishes, and such like, which was arranged for in the contract for messing. Officers should use wine at dinner or not as they choose; and if strangers are invited to dine at mess, the charge should be sufficient to enable the messman to provide plates, knives, and forks, and napkins for visitors, such as are used by gentlemen, and of a regimental pattern. As to bands, no doubt the Government ought to pay for them; but then we must be satisfied with strictly military bands. Government could not be expected to pay £300 or £100 a year for a bandmaster. Neither is it necessary. The abolition of 'short enlistments,' which must soon be resorted to, will provide bandmen sufficiently good, as formerly, and also band sergeants capable of leading bands with martial music. I know this by experience; and if it should so happen, on a vacancy occurring in the band-sergeant ship of a regiment, that there was no bandman in the band capable of taking his place, a bandman would be found in another corps who would gladly accept promotion, and band sergeants of regiments should have the same pay and advantages, or nearly so, as regimental sergeant-majors."—*Army and Navy Gazette*.

THE TREASURY RECEIPTS from April 1 to the 18th inst. amounted to £50,864,080, an increase of £2,362,151 upon the returns in the corresponding period of last year. The expenditure has reached £58,332,408. On Saturday last the balance in the Bank of England was £954,624.

THREE CHILDREN NAMED PRICE, aged respectively five, four, and three, were left in a room in Cleveland-market by themselves, last Saturday night, while their parents went out to market. The children, in play, pushed the sofa-end in the fire, and it ignited and set the room on fire. Some persons passing saw an unusual glare of fire in the third-floor front, and smoke issuing from the window, and an alarm was raised. When the firemen entered the room the children were insensible, and on being taken to Middlesex Hospital it was found that they were all dead.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE QUEEN was, on Wednesday, elected a member of the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland. Her Majesty has conferred the honour of knighthood on Dr. Gormack, in recognition of his distinguished services during the two sieges of Paris.

THE PRINCE OF WALES has made so much progress towards recovery that the issue of bulletins has been discontinued.

PRINCE ARTHUR left Dover, on Monday evening, at 8.30, accompanied by Mr. Kelly and Sir Howard Elphinstone, in her Majesty's steam-jacket Black Eagle, for Ostend, en route to Berlin, to visit her Imperial Highness the Princess Royal.

THE EMPEROR OF GERMANY has awarded Mr. John Glong, master of the smack Increase, of Colchester, a telescope, with an appropriate inscription, and £11 to the crews of the smacks Increase and Deedhound, of Colchester, for having saved the lives of the crew of the barque Carl Agrell, of Rostock, wrecked on the Long Sand, near Harwich, about two years ago.

THE KING OF THE BELGIANS will preside at the next annual dinner of the Royal Literary Fund, and will visit England for the purpose.

THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE, on Tuesday, presided over a meeting of the Royal United Service Institution, called to consider the notice which had been received from the office of Woods and Forests, in which possession of the building was required in April next. It was resolved to present a memorial to the Treasury, setting forth the national usefulness of the institution, and asking for a reconsideration of the question.

THE MARQUIS OF WESTMINSTER, in addition to his gift of the site for the church for the deaf and dumb, Oxford-street, now being erected by the Association in Aid of the Deaf and Dumb, has just given £50 towards the liquidation of a debt of £125 which that charity owes its banker.

THE REV. DR. GUTHRIE, of Edinburgh, preached to a crowded congregation, on Sunday, in the concert-room of the Agricultural Hall.

LORD CANNARON is going on favourably, and he is now considered by his medical attendants to be quite out of danger.

AN EMBASSY FROM JAPAN has reached San Francisco, and five Japanese princesses have arrived in America in order to be educated there.

MR. RUSKIN'S MUNIFICENT OFFER of £5000, for the purpose of an endowment to pay a Master of Drawing in the Taylor Galleries, has, with some modifications approved by Mr. Ruskin, been cordially accepted by the University of Oxford.

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE DOMINION OF CANADA are about to construct a railway through British territory to the Pacific Ocean.

THE BANBURY BOARD OF HEALTH has agreed to purchase an estate, at a cost of £23,400, for the purpose of utilising the sewage of the district. An examination has been held by a Government Commissioner, no opposition being offered.

A MARRIED WOMAN leaped into the river Clyde, near Ratherglen, on Tuesday, with her two children. All three were drowned.

A "DILKE DEMONSTRATION" is to be held at the Freemasons' Tavern, on the evening of Tuesday, the 30th inst. A large committee has been specially organised to maintain order in the meeting.

MR. ISAAC HOLDEN, who formerly represented Knaresborough, is to be the Liberal candidate for the northern division of the West Riding.

A FINE of £100 was, on Wednesday, imposed by the Lord Mayor for the offence of smuggling £21 lb. of foreign manufactured tobacco.

A STRIKE, on a somewhat large scale, of compositors has taken place at Stuttgart, Germany, 300 men having left work. A strike has also taken place at the collieries of Charleroi, Belgium.

CARDINAL CULLEN presided, on Wednesday, over a meeting held in Marlborough-street Roman Catholic Cathedral, Dublin, at which many speakers earnestly advocated the establishment of a system of denominational education in Ireland.

A PETITION is being signed by the friends of the Rev. J. S. Watson, condemned to death for the murder of his wife at Stockwell, praying the Home Secretary for a respite, on account of Mr. Watson's age and hitherto blameless life.

A SHOCKING AFFAIR occurred on Tuesday night at Hoxton. A carpenter named Harrold, who was suffering from a severe attack of sunstroke, left his bed during the temporary absence of the nurse, and went into the room where his son, about three years old, was sleeping. A carving-knife lying near, he snatched it up, and cut the child, and cut the poor boy's head almost from the body. The unfortunate man then cut his own throat, but not fatally. He lies, however, in a hopeless state.

A COTTAGE AT HARTLAND, DEVON, was struck by lightning during a thunderstorm last week, and first the chimney, then the roof gave way. A farm servant saw the occurrence, and also two children fell down, and on going to their assistance they told him there was another child inside the cottage. He went for help, and on returning found more of the building had given way. The body of the missing child was found buried under several tons of rubbish.

A MEETING OF THE VERDERERS OF EPPING FOREST was held on Monday at Stratford. The presentments made were ordered to stand over pending the decisions on the questions now before the legal tribunals for judgment.

THE POPULATION OF GREECE, according to the Census for 1870, amounted to 1,457,894 inhabitants, of whom 751,176 were males and 706,718 females. Comparing the present returns with those of 1860, an increase is shown of 132,515 souls. Athens has a population of 41,510 souls.

THE DIRECTORS OF THE LANCASHIRE AND YORKSHIRE RAILWAY COMPANY have decided to grant the demands of the goods guards on the line for shorter hours and an increase of wages.

MR. CHARLES HART, a young gentleman between seventeen and eighteen years of age, living in Coventry, being on a visit with his brother at a friend's in Somersetshire, last week, the two young men made an excursion to the Cheddar Cliffs. While on the top of the cliffs, the ground being slippery, Mr. Hart's foot slipped, he fell over the cliff, and was killed almost instantaneously.

THE MAN NAMED MACMAHON, who had robbed a number of little children of their clothing, and afterwards beaten them for crying at it, on Monday pleaded guilty to the offence, and was sentenced, by the Assistant Judge at the Middlesex Sessions, to five years' penal servitude.

THE TRADES CONGRESS AT NOTTINGHAM, before closing its sittings, last Saturday, appointed a committee to take any action which may be necessary to secure the repeal of the penal clauses of the Criminal Law Amendment Act, and to watch over the interests of labour generally in Parliament. Next year's congress will be held at Leeds.

THE ANNUAL DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES to the successful pupils of the West London School of Art was made, on Wednesday evening, by Mr. Beresford-Hope, M.P., the president of the society. Mr. Hope expressed his high sense of the benefits of art-education generally, and, after commending the scholars for the manner in which they had acquitted themselves last year, trusted that they would maintain the reputation already gained.

A GENERAL MEETING of the National Society for Women's Suffrage was held, on Wednesday, at the Langham Hotel—Mr. Jacob Bright, M.P., in the chair. Resolutions were passed approving of the general course pursued by the central committee, constituting the executive with all the necessary powers for promoting the movement, and urging upon all local committees the necessity of increased effort to promote the object which the society has kept so steadily in view.

THE CARMARTHENSHIRE JUSTICES have committed for trial at the next assizes Thomas Edwards, draper's assistant, aged twenty, for building nearly a dozen heaps of large stones and packing rails on both lines of the South Wales Railway on the night of Dec. 22. The defendant, being drunk, and having lost the train at Carmarthen, swore to be revenged on the company's servants, and then walked home down the line. He makes several contradictory statements.

THE PRIVATE VIEW of the Permanent Exhibition of Pictures at the Argyle-street Galleries took place on Saturday, when a large number of distinguished visitors, including Prince Napoleon, were present. The principal object of interest was David's great picture of the Coronation of Napoleon I.

MR. THOMAS JEFFRIES, a tradesman out of business, was charged, at the Kidderminster Police Court, last Saturday, with wilfully setting fire to some farm buildings occupied by Mr. Charles Yeomans, near that town. The whole of the farm buildings, barn, stabling, tool-house, cow-house, and pigsty were destroyed, together with their contents. The prisoner was committed for trial.

A YOUNG MAN NAMED HORREY, formerly in business at Burslem, who has been living separate from his wife, on Monday met her in the street at "Boston," pulled a revolver from his pocket, and shot her dead on the spot. He was at once taken into custody.

THE RESIGNATION OF MR. McCULLAGH TORRENS, M.P., one of the representatives of the Finsbury division of the London School Board, will, it is announced, shortly follow that of the Rev. William Rogers. Mr. Hugh Owen, who was one of the candidates at the general election, is a candidate for the vacant position. The election for the City will be on Feb. 12. Mr. Sheriff Bennett is the only candidate.

THE LOUNGER.

DURING the past week nobody could say "There is nothing in the papers," for said papers have been so full of matter that it has been no small task to keep oneself well posted up. About the middle of last week there came Lord Derby's speech; on Tuesday morning Sir John Coleridge's speech opening the defence in the Tichborne case sounded through the land like the blast of a trumpet; and now there comes, whilst I am writing, a Brighton paper with full reports of the Brighton members' speeches—Mr. White's rather shorter than usual, but Mr. Fawcett's long as my arm. About Sir John's amazing harangue I shall say nothing here more than this—If I remember rightly, in August last, I said, quoting from a gentleman learned in the law, that the case would turn, not upon what the plaintiff remembered, but what he did not remember. In a short time we shall probably see this prophecy fulfilled.

Lord Derby's speech has been lauded to the skies. The Conservatives have loudly chanted its praise, though why they should be so delighted with it I cannot see. Certainly it was not specially a Conservative speech—at least, not a Conservative party speech. With a little prancing, it might have been delivered with propriety from the benches behind the Government. In short, it is a Whig, rather than a Conservative, speech. But it is just such a speech as we might have expected Lord Derby would deliver; for the noble Lord is not a Conservative in the technical sense of the word, and this the Conservative leaders know and often have to deplore. "It was very painful," said a Conservative leader last Session, after he had been listening to Lord Derby on the Army Bill, "to hear the son of such a father talk Radicalism in that way." Nor was this Liverpool speech deserving the praises which have been so lavishly awarded to it. It is not a great speech. From beginning to end there is not a single new idea in it, nor a new fact, nor a new argument. But it is a very good and very useful speech. It is clear, and abounding in what is called common-sense; and this is Lord Derby's characteristic. He is not brilliant; he is not profound, but he has practical common-sense. The speech, I have said, is useful. This is the reason why I think so. It is a very great advantage to get a man, in so high a position as that which Lord Derby occupies, upon his legs to talk common-sense. I suspect that if you or I had made that speech it would have been voted dull. For, as it is true that what in the captain is but a choleric word, is in the soldier flat blasphemy, so it is true that, whilst common-sense spoken by an Earl is thought to be something wonderful, evoking enthusiastic applause, the same common-sense spoken by a man in a lower position is tiresome and boring. Then, again, your noble Earl gets his common-sense fully reported. When he speaks it is not only the few hundreds or thousands immediately in front of him that he talks to. That speech of his has long since been read in New York. New York! I will venture to assert that the inhabitants of Chicago, and perhaps of San Francisco, have by this time discussed it. For the London correspondents of the New York papers are what the manager of an English paper would deem reckless in the use of the cable. But here is something which perhaps will strike my readers as more curious. If Lord Derby had discussed important American matters his speech would have been printed in United States official diplomatic reports. Not long ago I discovered in one of these American Bluebooks a long debate in the House of Commons, reprinted verbatim from the *Times*.

Some of our papers, Conservative and Liberal, see more than meets the eye in this speech. "Lord Derby," says one "has formally 'read himself' into the Conservative party." "It is a manifesto of the policy of the party," says another. "He is bidding for the leadership, or even the premiership, of the next Conservative Government," guesses a third. This is the way with your political quidnuncs. They are always discerning something esoteric—something hidden from the vulgar. An official gentleman, with whom I had the honour of riding in one of those luxurious tramway cars, thinks that Lord Derby foresees that a break up of parties is imminent; that the Moderate Liberals, pressed by aggressive Radicalism, will have to join the Moderate Conservatives, that, united, they may stem the tide of Democracy; and that Lord Derby has an eye to the leadership of such a party. This is the said official gentleman's view. This is what he sees, or thinks he sees, in Lord Derby's speech. What do I think, do you ask? Well, I am not a quidnunc. I don't pretend to see through grindstones. My opinion is that the speech is simply what, on the face of it, it appears to be—an expression of Lord Derby's opinion upon the prominent topics of the day.

Lord Derby laughs to scorn the Permissive Bill. Mr. Fawcett declares that, rather than support the Permissive Bill, he would infinitely sooner never enter the House of Commons again. "I value political liberty," he said; "but I value individual liberty more." Bravo, Fawcett! There is the true ring in this. Were I never so strong an advocate for the Permissive Bill, I would vote for Fawcett; for, much as I detest drunkenness, I hate voluntary slaves more. By voluntary slaves I mean those who would vote for anything to keep in Parliament. Lord Derby would have free trade in spirituous liquors, but stringent police restrictions. This would cut the Gordian knot; and thus the knot will some day, I have no doubt, be cut. But not yet; not until many more attempts have been made to untie it without success. By-the-way, will any of my readers with Permissive Bill proclivities solve me this puzzle?—Mr. Gilbey proves that no more intoxicating liquor per head of the population is consumed in the United Kingdom now than was consumed thirty years ago. Mr. Leone Levi, a better authority, perhaps, says not so much; the insurance offices tell us that people live longer than they used to do; and yet it is asserted that drunkenness is increasing frightfully. How can this be? Surely it cannot be true, and my own observation, spread over half a century, tells me it is not. It is acknowledged that the higher class drinks less. I am convinced that the middle class also drinks less. Fifty years ago tradesmen used to drink beer or something stronger at every meal. In my young days we always had a tankard of strong ale on the breakfast-table—not your thin pale ale, but strong October, five and a half or six bushels to the hogshead, and at least nine months old. The *Saturday Review* says that now men of business keep a sherry-bottle at their offices, as if this were a new thing. Well, the sherry-bottle may be somewhat new, because wine was too dear—indeed, few traders drank foreign wine forty or fifty years ago. Beer stronger than sherry was the tippie, and spirits. I venture to assert that no trader, wholesale or retail, ever allowed an extensive buyer to leave his shop or office without asking him to take something to drink. It is simply, to my mind, humbug, Mr. Editor, all this noise about the increase of drunkenness.

You have seen, no doubt, that the law officers of the Crown are no longer to be paid by fees from patentees. This is an improvement. But surely the salaries are fixed too high. The Attorney-General is to have £7000, the Solicitor-General £6000; whereas a Secretary of State has only £5000. But this is not all. The Secretary of State gives all his time to the service of the State; the law officer of the Crown does not give half, perhaps not a quarter, of his for this money; for, mind you, for briefs for the Crown he is to be paid the usual fees. "Yes," it is said; "but you know these successful lawyers earn such incomes that unless we offered them large salaries we should not be able to get their services." But is it so? I should like to see the fee-books of the law officers for the last twenty years—first, to learn what income they earned before they took office, and how much their business decreased after they took office. Did it decrease at all? Did it not increase? I asked a learned friend of mine the other day what he thought of the assumed necessity for such high pay to the law officers, and this was his curt reply, "It's gammon."

The matter of the appointment of Sir Robert Collier is, I hear,

to be brought before the Lords, and there seems to be little doubt that the Government will be beaten there. It has been said that Lord Hatherley's answer will be "What could I do? I had nobody else qualified to take the place." But I can hardly think that he will venture upon such a defence. Sir Robert Collier is a passably good lawyer, nothing more, the authorities say; and certainly he has not shone brilliantly in the House. To say that there is no man so fit to take this judgeship as he, would be an insult to the Bar.

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

There has been a considerable storm raised regarding the new drama called "The Last Days of Pompeii," recently produced at the Queen's after considerable advertisement and puff. I take it that the objects of the management in asking Mr. John Oxenford to adapt Lord Lytton's novel were to provide the public with a showy spectacle; to obtain, if possible, an interesting play; to provide themselves with a reason for boasting about the taste of the theatre; and to make the thing pay. After careful consultation at the Museum and poring over such picture-books as were available, the play is produced; but, through an excess of zeal, all the circuses and music-halls are ransacked, the columns of the theatrical newspaper par excellence are carefully studied, in order to obtain sensation and novelty to fill in the pictures. It is ascertained that tight-rope dancers performed over the heads of the guests at a Roman banquet. The management must therefore engage a tight-rope dancer, and accordingly the "Famous Christoff" appears, bedecked in the full glory of Alhambra fleshings, and dancing his ordinary tight-rope dance, smacking rather of Preston than of Pompeii. An amphitheatre scene is proposed; and here is another chance for the acrobatic professionals out of work. The Sextilian Troupe is engaged to turn somersaults; but on the stock actors devolves the principal task of imitating, with faint effect, the cruelties and barbarities practised in the Roman arena. However this may be, after a week of special rehearsing, the play is announced. The eventful evening came at last; and never was there such a fiasco. The play was intrinsically worthless, and the best effects unquestionably trumpery; but the failure was heightened by the utter collapse of the famous Christoff and the tedious tricks of the Sextilian troupe. The new drama on the first night was a complete failure, and it became necessary to tell the truth about it. The truth, always unpalatable and disagreeable, was particularly so in this instance, considering the amount of money and time which had been expended on the play. So the manager did as all managers are now permitted to do. He wrote to the leading authority and complained bitterly of the truth. The controversy caused excitement. The blunders were carefully corrected. The play was shortened, the acting was improved, the eccentricities were removed, and out of a bad play came one which is likely to please those who do not care for a drama but are fascinated by show. The moral of all this is: when you have a bad play, take the opinion of the best criticism, write to the papers and appeal, and then chances to one but you will get a bright success out of a comparative failure. For my own part, I do not grudge the success to the Queen's management, such as it is; but there is an end to all criticism if, when the truth is told, managers are to correct, and then turn round and ask the public if the critic's verdict is a fair one. This is exactly what has been done in this instance. The faults found with "The Last Days of Pompeii" have been remedied, and incontinently the management turns round and whines to the public about the cruelty of finding faults when faults do not exist. Miss Henrietta Hodson, Mr. Ryder, and Mr. George Rignold do their best, and struggle hard to be considered before Mr. Gordon, the scene-painter, or Mr. Somebody else, the mechanician. But it will not do. The public which likes acting will not be attracted to the Queen's; but the public will attend there which has merely the intellect likely to be tickled with a few pretty pictures.

It is comparatively a dull time at the play just now. Mr. Craven has gone to the Strand to act in "The Postboy," and "London Assurance" has been very respectably revived at the Vaudeville; but the Christmas entertainments absorb till all the attention of playgoers. Drury Lane has never done so well. The camp scene at Covent Garden is still the talk of the town; while for third place the Alhambra, Astley's, and the Princess's run one another very close indeed.

THE CRYSTAL PALACE Pantomime—"Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves"—is not a new one. When originally played at Covent Garden, in 1866-7, it was honoured by Mr. J. Ruskin discussing its demerits in one of his letters to a working man. From that letter we learn that when a little girl, eight or nine years old, danced before Mr. Payne's cleverly constructed and efficiently drilled donkey, of the whole auditory Mr. Ruskin was the only one who gave audible evidence of delight; and that when the cave scene was exhibited and the house applauded as one man, Mr. Ruskin wept. I am afraid that if Mr. Ruskin were to witness the revived pantomime, he would again weep, though perhaps not quite so copiously as formerly; for though the forty thieves are still played by forty ladies—with legs, they refrain from following the example of their predecessors in the matter of cigar-smoking. "Ali Baba" is well worth seeing, though the new cast is scarcely so strong as the old one. Messrs. W. H. and Fred. Payne retain their original parts; but we have Miss Lady Wilson as Abdallah, instead of Miss Kate Carson; Miss Annie Tremaine as Haseerat, in place of Miss Rachel Sanger; and Miss Florence Farrer as Morgiana, instead of Miss Ada Harland, who seems to have permanently settled in America. The costumes—some of them old acquaintances—are showy, and the transformation scene, with its cascade of real water, is novel and handsome. The harlequinade is scarcely so brisk as it might be.

THE POSTMEN AT WARRINGTON struck work last Saturday morning, and the delivery of letters, which was performed by Post-Office clerks and telegraph boys, was much delayed. The postmen have issued a notice to the public, in which they state that the Post-Office authorities are taking an unfair advantage of them, by introducing others in their places, because they have applied for an increase of wages from 14s. to 18s. a week.

STREET CLEANING AND PAVING IN THE CITY.—On Tuesday, at a meeting of the City commission of sewers, held at Guildhall—Mr. J. T. Bodford presiding—Mr. John Seales, the chairman of the streets committee, stated, in answer to Mr. Alderman Stone, that they had taken the opinion of the City solicitor on the question whether there was any legal difficulty in the way of the commission undertaking the cleaning of the footpaths in the City, and had found there was not. Thinking it desirable that the pavements as well as the carriage-ways of the streets should in future be cleaned by them, they were about to make an experiment, with a view to obtain an approximate estimate of the expense. The work, he added, would be begun very shortly. A memorial from the ward of Bishopsgate, asking that Bishopsgate-street might be paved with asphalt, was referred to the streets committee, as was also a petition to the same effect with regard to King William-street. On the suggestion of that committee the footways of Cornhill were ordered to be paved with the Limer asphalt by way of trial. Mr. Haywood, the engineer, in reply to a question, stated that it was not intended by the municipal authorities in Paris to put down asphalt there generally, but, regarding it as "a pavement of luxury," to confine it to the principal streets. He reported at a subsequent part of the meeting that he, with the assistance of Captain Shaw, had conducted an experiment as to how far under the action of fire asphalt pavements were likely to be the means of spreading a conflagration. He obtained six yards of superficial asphalt—one half being furnished by the Val de Travers and the other by the Limer Company—upon the surface of which were piled half a truss of straw, one hundred firewood wheels, 350 dry faggots, eight sacks of chump wood, all soaked in petroleum. When ignited and while blazing, this mass was frequently stirred about with an iron rod, so that the atmosphere might play upon it, and when the whole had got red-hot the fire was extinguished. Both asphalts were then soft, but when the surface got perfectly cool they had hardened again. The test was a much more severe one than a street pavement would be subjected to in case of an ordinary fire, even of a large extent, and therefore there was no reason to suppose that asphalt would aid in spreading a conflagration. The experiment might, perhaps, set at rest public doubts on the subject. The commission afterwards settled the various conditions under which experiments in the different kinds of asphalt paving might be made in the City.

SAILING AND STEAMING ON THE ICE.

OUR American cousins know how to live. They are always ready to take advantage of any external condition, and to apply their enormous energy and enterprise to the provision of pleasure and amusement, when there is nothing else to be done. It often happens, of course, that the sports of the Americans assume a vast importance; for, making use of the advantages—one might almost say of the disadvantages also—which belong to their climate and the mighty woods and streams of their great country, they go in for pleasure on such a gigantic scale that it merges into a business. Our illustration will serve, perhaps, to indicate this, though the adaptation of the sledge principle to sailing-vessels, and the construction of ice-ships on the Hudson, has still more to do with holiday-making than with trade. The railway, which runs on its own road over the frozen stream, is sufficient for the purposes of business; and the winged sledges, that glide like swift-skimming swallows, each with their three passengers, are, as it were, the gay flutterers that form a flotilla on the river near New York.

These ingenious machines are made of timber, and are in the form of a T, the stem of which may be said to be the train, or sledge. At the point of junction of the stem and the cross of the T, which is the head or prow of the ship and rests upon a movable piece, is placed the mast. Two men have charge of the sails, and they stand one at each end of the cross-piece, or prow, the extremities of which rest upon great skate or sledge blades. A glance at our illustration will serve to indicate better than any description the construction of this ice-ship, the exhilarating speed of which makes an excursion in it a journey to remember with pleasure, though that pleasure may have a thrill in it if the traveller has happened to be on board a fast vessel starting at about the time of the express-train which carries merchandise. It has happened before now that the fast ships have not only pretty well kept up with the express for above an hour, but have succeeded in passing it by skilful manoeuvre of the sails and a good breeze. Indeed, it is declared that two at least of these swift birds have run at the rate of sixty miles an hour. It is more like flying than either steaming or sailing, and the blood must run quickly enough to keep the voyagers warm.

A SERIES OF LECTURES TO VOLUNTEER OFFICERS is announced to be delivered at the Royal United Service Institution, Whitehall-yard, on Thursday evenings, at eight o'clock. The first lecture will be on Feb. 15, by Captain C. Brackenbury, R.A., on "The necessity of discipline in a fighting force." Major-General Napier, C.B., will take the chair. The subjects of the subsequent lectures will be "Outpost duty," Lieutenant-Colonel Middleton; "The duties of regimental officers in field manoeuvres," Captain H. Macgregor; "Hasty fortification," Major Knollys; "Defensive positions," Captain H. Brackenbury, R.A.

LOYALTY AND DISORDER.—A meeting was advertised to be held, on Tuesday evening, at Chelsea to express the loyalty of the inhabitants. Although the admission was by ticket, a strong party of the supporters of Sir Charles Dilke, M.P. for that borough, managed to gain an entrance by means, it is said, of forged cards, and a tremendous row ensued. Just after the proceedings had commenced a volley of chairs was directed with great force at the chairman and his friends, some of whom were wounded and others knocked down by the missiles, and a speedy retreat by the back staircase was effected. The mob afterwards formed a procession to the residence of Sir Charles Dilke, where they sang "The Marseillaise."

DOUBLE DEATH.—Last Saturday afternoon the dead body of a man named Ward, who was in charge of the reserve engine of the New River Company at Tottenham, was found in the engine-house. The man had committed suicide by hanging himself, and had, it appeared, thrown himself from the staircase running round the building after fastening the rope to the top rail. On his cottage being searched Ward's wife was discovered dead in her bed. There were no marks of violence upon her body. It is supposed that the woman died suddenly, and that her husband committed suicide in a fit of despondency.

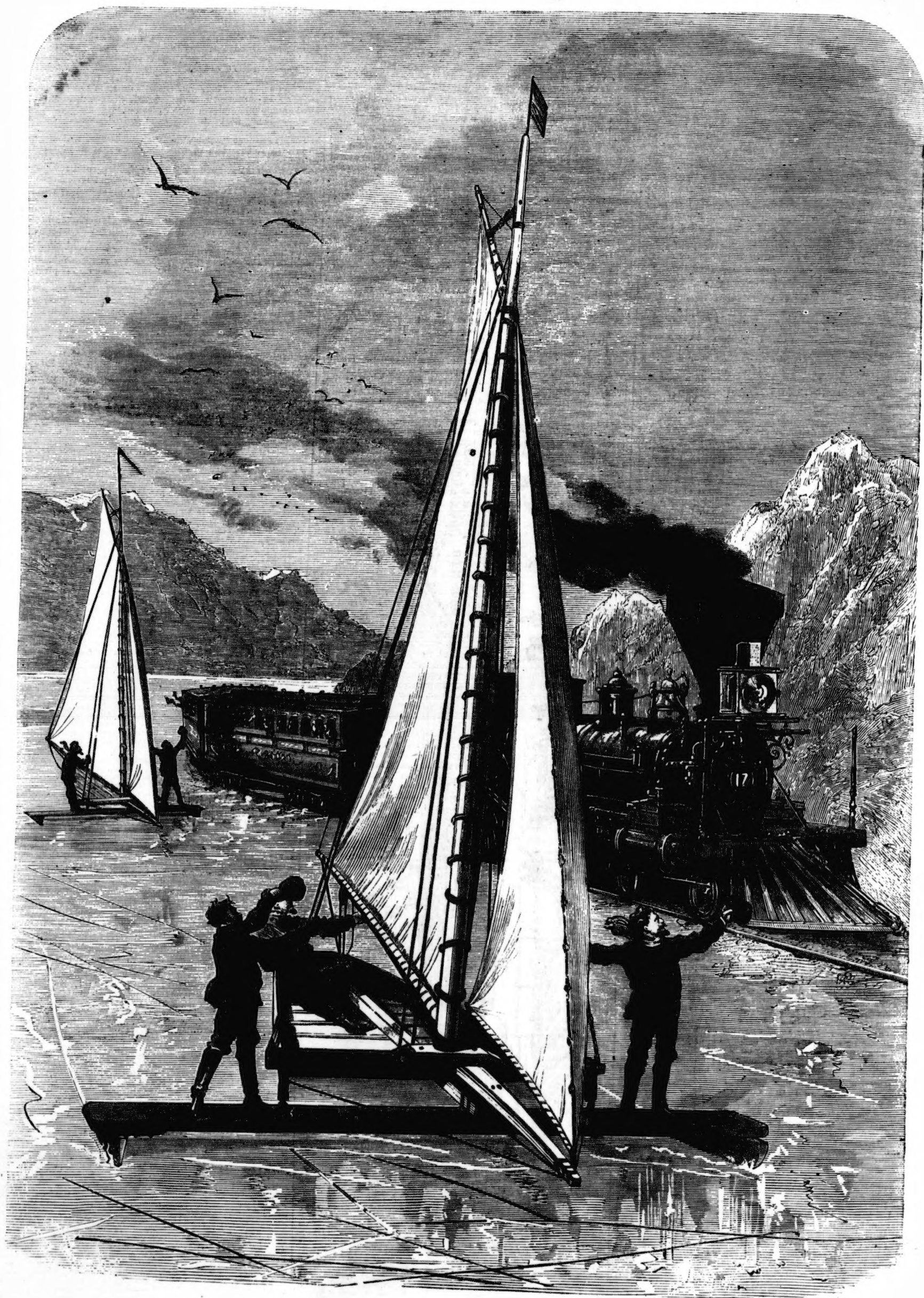
OPPOSITION TO SCHOOL RATES.—Mr. Harvey Adams, china manufacturer, was, on Monday, summoned at the Hanley Police Court for refusing to pay 1s. 6d. towards an education rate for the parish of St. Leon-Trent. For the defence it was urged that the precept for the making of the rate was not signed in accordance with the requirements of the Education Act. The magistrates decided that the precept was valid, and that Mr. Adams must pay the sum in question. The defendant, who conscientiously objects to the payment of fees to denominational schools, declared that he would not do so, and a distress warrant was granted.

THE LIVINGSTONE EXPEDITION.—At a meeting of the Glasgow Chamber of Commerce, on Monday, a letter was read from the son of Dr. Livingstone, asking the Chamber to take an interest in the expedition to search for his father. The Chamber cordially agreed to recommend the subscription now being made in Glasgow to its individual members and to the general public. It was stated that the second son of Dr. Livingstone, who is studying as a surgeon, has become so anxious about the safety of his father that he has come to London to offer himself as a volunteer for the expedition.

MR. JAMES FISK.—James Fisk was in no particular way an offspring of Republican institutions or a descendant to them. He was a vulgar De Morgan; his misuse of the Courts was not much worse than the misuse of the laws of public security under the Empire, and it is probable that, had he lived, the Committee of Seventy would have crushed him and the Opera House as they have crushed Tammany and the Municipal Council. But his career wakes in our minds some fear for Republican institutions when based upon an electorate so strange. It has risen to put down corruption, no doubt; but suppose Fisk to have been a little less insatiable, a little abler, a little more penetrated with political wisdom, to have distributed instead of trying to absorb prosperity, to have been cultivated, and to have been cautious; to have been, in fact, Napoleon instead of Fisk; it seems to us he might have ruled New York for life with a certain acceptance. Nothing could have overthrown him but a rising, which only gratuitous provocation, robbery beyond all necessity, insults to opinion which brought no advantage, could ever have provoked. The man did reign for three years, and why not for thirty? It is not that Republican institutions make the people weak, for when the provocation arises the people are terribly strong; but that they make them so contented, so indisposed to revolt, and so reluctant to risk pleasant lives and embark on an unknown sea. If the South had organised itself for passive resistance, firing on nobody, keeping strictly within State laws and ignoring the Federal Government, would the North have risen to battle? If James Fisk had used his bad power for popular ends, had been a man of the domesticities instead of a Sultan, and had allowed his shareholders something instead of a scaling all, might he not have lived his life, and his death have been followed by a fall instead of a rise in all American scrip?—*Spectator*.

A CLENICAL SCANDAL.—It is possible that the inquiry into the charges against the Rev. John Craig, Vicar of Leamington, by the commission appointed by the Bishop of Worcester, in compliance with a memorial addressed to his Lordship by a number of the rev. defendant's parishioners, will have to be resumed. It may be recollected that, after the commission had sat three days and taken a mass of evidence in support of charges of insobriety against the Vicar, an arrangement was come to between the rev. defendant's counsel and the memorialists who had asked for the inquiry. The arrangement was to the effect that the Vicar should leave Leamington for twelve months, receive the whole of the income of the benefice, and that a parochial council should take the whole of the weekly offertory of the parish church, and out of it pay the stipends of two Curates. A letter has been received from the Bishop of Worcester, dated Hartlebury, Jan. 18, in which his Lordship says he cannot sanction in any way the arrangement which has been arrived at between the Vicar of Leamington and the memorialists who asked for the commission. The Bishop says he thinks it is much to be regretted that the inquiry, having been carried so far, was not continued to the complete end. If the Vicar of Leamington, he adds, should think proper to absent himself from his parish for twelve months and make a sufficient provision for the duty, he should not feel obliged to call him into residence; but the law will not allow him to give the Vicar license of non-residence.

MR. SPURGEON ON LONG SERMONS.—In the course of an address delivered last Saturday to workmen, Mr. Spurgeon commented on the excuse people made for not going to church. Some persons, said Mr. Spurgeon, complain that they cannot understand the sermons they hear. The reason was that ministers would use big words. He (Mr. Spurgeon) always endeavoured to get rid of all the big words out of his sermons, and was as particular as their wives were to get the stones out of the plum-pudding. They would get in somehow, but the main thing was to preach as simply as possible. Long sermons, also, were a great evil. If a person preached a long sermon, it was because he had nothing to say. It might appear odd, but it was nevertheless a fact, that when people had nothing to say they took a long time about it; but when they had got something worth telling they out with it at once. Therefore he repeated, when a man makes a long sermon he sets out with a very little, and begins to spin, spin, spin. He was of the same opinion as Dr. Chalmers, who was once asked how long it took to make a sermon. "That," he replied, "depended upon how long you wanted it. If your sermon is to be half an hour long, it will take you three days. If it is to be three-quarters of an hour, it may take you two days, or perhaps only one; but if you are going to preach for an hour, why there is not much occasion to think a great deal about it. It may be done in an hour."



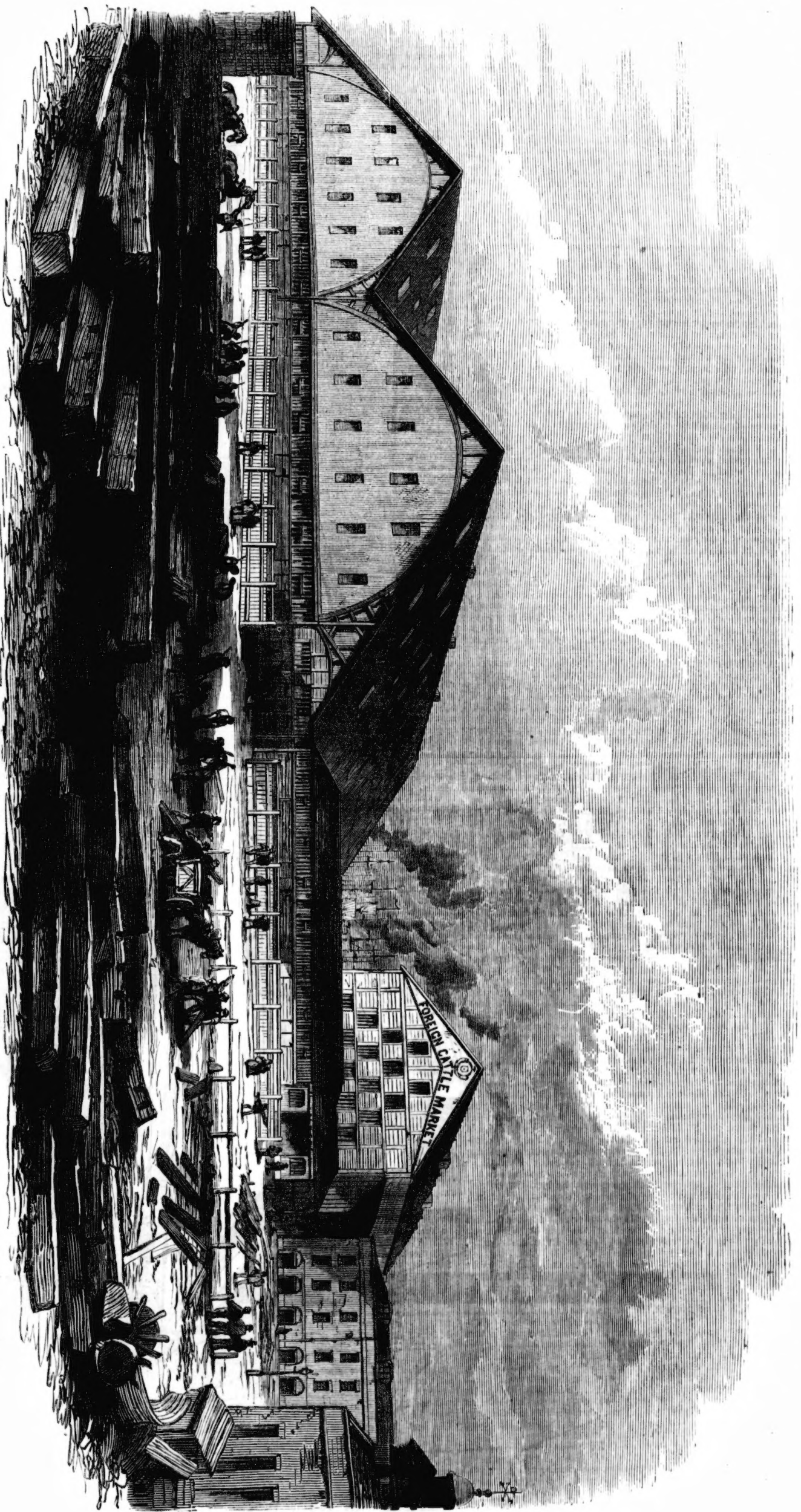
"ICE-SHIPS" ON THE RIVER HUDSON, AMERICA.

THE NEW CATTLE MARKET AT DEPTFORD.

We have already published descriptions of the new cattle market on the site of Deptford Dockyard, some Engravings connected with which appear in our present number. The following are the leading features of this new depot for foreign cattle:—

The dockyard, comprising an area of twenty-two acres, of a generally trapezium shape, with a river frontage of 1012 ft., included a tidal basin of an acre and a quarter in extent, with seven "slips," or deep excavations, in which vessels were built, these being covered by four great sheds, and nearly half the remainder of the area was occupied by ranges of buildings, houses, yards, and gardens. The object of the City Markets Committee was not to clear this space and then erect such a handsome and complete market as should throw into the shade the accommodation at Islington, and equal the design which has transformed and adorned Smithfield, but merely to construct a market, "in such a manner," says the Markets Committee's report, "as appeared to be sufficient to meet the requirements of the Act." The officers of the Privy Council obliged the committee to provide a considerably greater extent of accom-

THE NEW FOREIGN CATTLE MARKET, DEPTFORD.



modation than the committee itself originally projected, and the Corporation having let slip a very large portion of the whole period allowed them for the work by the Act of 1869, the only plan available was to utilise the ship-building sheds, supplement them by rapidly-constructed buildings with little brickwork, and convert some of the substantial and roomy stores or workshops into slaughter-houses. The admirable arrangements by which all this has been carried out were designed by Mr. Horace Jones, F.R.S.B.A., the City Architect, who designed the Smithfield Dead-Meat Market, and the new library and museum, the new roof, and other important improvements at the Guildhall. In July last operations commenced by the demolition of certain buildings, and by filling up the slips—principally with the earth and rubbish excavated from the site of the new Law Courts, and partly with mud dredged from the river bed for the purpose. The conversion and erection of buildings was hardly commenced till September, and the heaviest part of the work was the transformation of the Admiralty store-houses into slaughter-shops. By connecting together the three great sheds around the dock basin the architect has formed the principal roofed-in area, in ground plan of a

pentagonal horseshoe form, with the basin in the middle, and the side next the river left uncovered. From the two ends of this horseshoe range of lairs, two separate piers or landing-stages, 350 ft. apart, project into the river; and a third landing-stage, 400 ft. further east, is provided for a long shed, which stands apart from the other lairs. Each pier, consisting of timber-work of a very strong and superior character, projects 172 ft. from the frontage, terminating in a transverse stage 95 ft. in length, flanked by dolphin piers; and upper and lower fixed platforms, one 14 ft. above the other, are being constructed for unloading at high or low tide. At low tide there is a depth of 12 ft. or 13 ft. of water, so that steam-vessels can lie alongside the pier-head to discharge cargo at any state of the river, and three vessels may be unloading simultaneously. Should disease appear in any of the cargoes, one pier, or two, out of the three may be kept disinfected. Cattle and sheep will walk off the ship along a gangway, just as passengers pass off a river steam-boat; and Mr. Phillips, the clerk of the market, has contrived an arrangement of gates and of removable posts and chains for receiving the animals at any part of the stage front and preventing

accidents. A traversing steam-crane, with a jib projecting 35 ft., will land in a sling any animal unable to make his own exit from the ship. Close by the shore-end of each pier is a house for the immediate slaughter and melting down of any animals condemned as unfit for human food—an excellent arrangement being contrived for hoisting each carcass, lowering it into a strong, iron cylinder, something like a steam-boiler set on end, and digesting it by means of steam of a high pressure. Animals not condemned by the inspectors will pass into the covered lairs or pens; and the horseshoe range of sheds is divided by two brick walls into four large compartments, for the better separation of healthy and suspected cargoes. The shed-roofs of the "slips"—some 80 ft. or 90 ft. in height to the ridge—were open at the sides; but these have been converted into houses by side inclosures of wood framing, the lower portion boarded, the upper part glazed, with a large aggregate area of opening panes and of glass louvres inserted for ventilation. The pens are paved with brick on edge, and the roadways, of 20 ft. breadth, passing down the centre of each building, are of granite pitching. The new roofs uniting together the slip-sheds are of wood and slate, carried

upon iron pillars, and are about 15 ft. in height. In one place have been fitted up a few iron pens, constructed of iron stanchions and round bars, while some sheep-pens, with opening and shutting hay-racks, testify to the ingenuity of Mr. Rudkin, the designer. But nearly all the cattle and sheep pens are constructed of stout oak posts and bars, two different varieties of headstall for feeding and watering having been contrived according to the practical knowledge of Mr. Rudkin and Mr. Brewster, two active members of the City markets committee. Water-troughs of wood, connected together by short lengths of pipe, are fitted in most of the cattle-pens; but some have smaller troughs of iron, and water is turned on by a cock at the end of each row of headstalls, the cast-iron water mains being filled by the Kent Waterworks Company from their artesian wells. Iron hay-racks are hoisted in the sheep-pens. Each fair is well lighted at night by gas standards. The cattle pens are 24 ft. wide, and 60 ft. to 90 ft. long, according to the breadth of the building; the pens running transversely from the centre roadway to the side wall, while 6 ft. broad passages divide pen from pen. Each sheep-pen measures 27 ft. in length by 10 ft. wide, the fences consisting of wooden uprights, with iron round bar rails; and small iron drinking-troughs are placed upon the ground and connected by pipes, so that water flows from one to another.

THE SEA FORTS AT SPITHEAD.

THE iron framework of one of the principal forts for the defence of Spithead has been finished, and will soon be seen in its allotted place. The structure is unique, and merits description as a wonderful piece of mechanical and engineering achievement. Apart from that, it claims attention from the extreme importance of the subject, considering both the purpose of the work and the outlay of public money which it involves. When erected, it will give the world a visible sign of the magnitude of the undertaking which the War Department has on hand—a proof that something unprecedented in size and strength is being realised. After all the time, and thought, and talk, and money bestowed upon the idea, the country may have at last the gratification of seeing one of the vital points of national defence rendered as safe, to all appearance, as fortifications can make it. In pursuance of this object many of the plans of the last dozen years have had to be reconsidered and amended—many things done and undone, or begun and abandoned. The advance in the power of artillery during that period would alone have altered much that seemed good in the eyes of the Royal Commission of 1859. Nevertheless, the system of defences at Spithead may be looked upon as a fruit of the recommendations of that Commission. Its appointment was due to the strong feeling of insecurity which then prevailed. Looking at the unprotected state of the naval arsenals, and the supposed risk of our naval power being crippled, the Commissioners were instructed to report especially upon the means of making them secure. The protection of Portsmouth against an attacking fleet naturally formed a leading point in the inquiry. The Commissioners recommended the construction of powerful casemated sea forts at Spithead, and the most important of these works have been proceeded with, Parliament having sanctioned them. There are four sea forts to be named in a prefatory survey of the system of works, including one of which we shall give particulars, and which might be termed the most important, were it not that one of the others will be in every respect its exact counterpart.

It must be borne in mind that the object of these defensive works is, even locally considered, a very comprehensive one. It comprises not only the protection of Portsmouth, its harbour and dockyard from bombardment, but also the defence of the extensive anchorage of Spithead, from the mouth of the harbour to the Isle of Wight. A glance at the map is, therefore, recommended to any reader who has not the geography of the situation well in mind. It will then be seen how obviously the approach may be commanded by two immense sea forts—one to the north of Ryde sands, in the Isle of Wight; and the other to the south of Southsea—the island, or, as it may be considered, peninsula of the mainland, which forms the eastern side of Portsmouth Harbour, and on which Portsmouth itself is built. As a matter of fact, the two principal forts will occupy these positions. One of the two will rise out of the water about 2000 yards from Ryde Sands, being erected on the shoal called No Man's Land. Its consort will be erected on the Horse Sand Shoal, about 3500 yards from Southsea. These two forts will not be much more than 2000 yards apart, as any map must serve to show with the aid of the distances already stated. It then becomes important to note that the only deep channel passes through the space of 2000 yards. The main approach to Portsmouth Harbour is from the eastward, by this same channel; and the forts on both sides must completely command it. Their guns would probably pierce twelve inches of armour at 2000 yards' distance. It would seem, if one looked at nothing but these bare figures of range and distance, that the forts would not only be mutual supports, but might some day fire into one another. The reader will assume, however, that it is provided otherwise—that something more than the interval of 2000 yards will always prevent such an occurrence. It is believed that the range of their projectiles would avail to keep an enemy's fleet outside bombarding distance of the harbour, and render it impossible for any fleet to remain at Spithead under their fire, or for any vessel to attempt to pass between them. The two forts remaining to be mentioned are the Spitbank and St. Helen's. The site of the former is the extremity of Spitbank sand, about 1200 yards from the northern shore (at Southsea Castle), and 2500 yards from land to the westward of the entrance to Portsmouth Harbour. The St. Helen's Fort is located on a point of sand off St. Helen's, near the eastern extremity of the Isle of Wight. While the two first-named forts, as has been shown, protect the main approach, the St. Helen's Fort will cover the St. Helen's roads and the channels outside, and the Spitbank Fort will command the anchorage of Spithead, as well as the channel leading into the harbour. Of the strength and armament of all these forts we shall have more to say. Meantime it should be noted that the system of defence is supplemented by land batteries at Southsea, to the eastward of the entrance to Portsmouth Harbour; also at Gillingham, to the westward. These batteries would act in conjunction with the sea forts. On the other side, the approaches from the westward, along the north of the Isle of Wight, are guarded by powerful batteries at the Needles and Hurst Castle, besides other works.

As regards the character of the sea-works we are indebted to the courtesy of the Fairbairn Engineering Company, the constructors of the iron framework of the two principal forts, for precise information. By the term framework the reader must understand the skeleton state and form of the forts, as distinguished from the armour with which they will be clothed hereafter and the armament which they are intended to carry. One of these structures is quite complete, and the first thing to notice about it is its extraordinary size. It covers a circle the diameter of which is 200 ft. The foundation prepared for it rises out of the sea to about 16 ft. above high-water mark. From this platform the iron wall of the fort will ascend to a uniform height of 26 ft., and above this there will be a bombproof roof. When all is done, the vertical side, or wall, will present a blank face all round, varied by no features whatever, save the noses of the guns, except at the entrance port, where the gun will be omitted. The holes for the guns to peep through will be the only openings (with that exception), each, perhaps, 4 ft. by 3 ft. All the rest of the wall—the whole exterior of the fort—will be dead armour-plate, with the roof to crown it. This will be the ultimate aspect of the work, but in its present condition we have to deal with a comparatively open-looking structure, entirely roofless, and minus all the armour-plating with which it will be inclosed.

Until the plating is added there will be seen only the huge upright piers, or supports; the floors, or decks, on which the guns will rest; and the vertical bars, somewhat stockade-like in appearance, to which the outer armour will be attached. The fort will

carry forty-nine guns, arranged in two tiers, the upper containing twenty-five and the lower twenty-four. Accordingly the framework has rather the look of a skeleton building in two stories. It might be compared to the structural outlines of an amphitheatre; but the interior must be pictured entirely clear of stages and everything else. The circumference has a gallery all the way round, at a height about midway between the ground-floor platform and the roof beams. The floor and gallery represent the lower and upper stages, or the guns. With these and their supports, and the armour to be added, the whole mass of ironwork is exclusively concerned. It is an empty circus, the architecture of which is all at the circumference. The appropriation of the interior space of the fort is a matter with which the constructors of the framework are not concerned. The circular fabric which they have put together is divided into bays, in each story, by the massive vertical piers, twenty-five in number. These divisions, along two lines (upper and lower) of 600 ft.—which is the length of the circumference—afford ample scope for a gun in each; and the piers are so shaped in their inner portion as to allow the free play of the gun on its swivel pivot.

As regards the details of the structure, the component parts to be noticed are mainly the three classes above mentioned—the decks, or floors, for the guns; the vertical piers, and the massive upright bars for the armour. To take the piers first—they are composed of wrought-iron plates three quarters of an inch thick. Their dimensions are about 13 ft. 9 in. by 7 ft. 6 in., and 22 ft. high. Their hollow insides will be filled with concrete. The upright supports for the armour, which we have compared to a stockade in their present appearance, are solid bars of wrought iron, some measuring 12 in. by 8 in., and the others 12 in. by 5 in. These immense upright bars are repeated all the way round the outer rim of the structural circle, in the spaces left between the piers, and they uniformly extend from top to bottom. These and the piers, therefore, with the armour to be added, constitute the wall of the fort. The next element for review is the composition of the two decks. Both the upper and lower will be formed of enormous wrought iron beams, laid horizontally, the outer ends of which will be carried by the iron structure itself, and the inner ones by the buildings within the fort; the spaces between the beams will be covered in with $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. wrought-iron arched plates, well riveted to the beams, and filled in with concrete flush to the actual gun floor, which will be formed of timber planking, carried by these wrought-iron beams. There are also three horizontal external rings, one flush with the masonry and the other two at the levels of each deck as described, which are composed of solid wrought-iron plates $\frac{3}{4}$ in., $\frac{1}{2}$ in., and $\frac{1}{4}$ in. thick respectively, and form a most important element in the strength of the structure. All the materials are of the best and most costly description of armour-plate iron, and have been furnished by Messrs. Cammell and Co., of Sheffield. Many of these plates are 26 ft. in length, and one of these alone would represent a cost of about £170 sterling. Without inquiring the exact number of them in the whole of this stupendous array of ironwork, the example just given is enough to prepare one for the total estimate of the price, recollecting that the multitudinous ribs and bones of the fabric are knit together from floor to roof all along a circumference of 600 ft. The cost of the fabric alone of the two forts, one of which we are describing, is about £900,000, exclusive of the armament. The Horse Land and No Man's Land forts correspond in all respects, except that the foundation for the latter has been rather the more costly of the two.

Before turning to the foundations, however, something must be said of the general character of this ironwork. All the military officers and professional authorities who have inspected it concur in pronouncing it superior to anything of the kind erected heretofore. The Fairbairn Engineering Company, in order to meet the requirements of the Government in this important undertaking, have incurred a large outlay in providing special machinery to facilitate the production of the two forts and works of similar magnitude. As may be supposed, a large space of ground has been entirely occupied by the erection of the first fort during the fourteen months it has been constructing. As soon as it is removed, the same ground will be occupied for a similar length of time with the second fort. A special workshop had to be fitted up for the work, and a great number of the best and newest of Whitworth's tools had to be provided, as much to ensure the accuracy of the work and perfect adjustment of all its parts as to expedite its progress as much as possible. With the latter object, for instance, multiple drills were provided of the newest design, costing £500 a-piece, and each drilling thirty holes at a time; no superfluous speed, considering that the number of holes to be drilled, all in their exact places, is reckoned by millions. The edge of every plate throughout the structure is planed, every hole has been drilled, and the edges of the iron were afterwards taken off by machinery, to prevent the force of a shot shearing the fastenings. All the plates had to be planed to the true circle outside. Before the artificers' work could be entered upon the planing and marshalling of this bewildering multitude of details required long and careful labour. This has been effectually carried out by the Fairbairn Company's engineer, Mr. H. M. Harman, C.E., in accordance with the general design of the work received from its authors at the War Office; and the precision with which everything was foreseen and calculated may be gathered from the fact that when the whole circle of iron-plating came to be put together not a farthing of expense had to be incurred in correction, so perfect was the adjustment of every part. All this nicety and finish must seem the more remarkable to non-professional eyes, looking at the unwieldy character of the materials employed. So exceptional was the severity of a great part of the manual labour involved in the actual combination of parts that only the most powerful workmen were equal to the strain. As already indicated, these two iron sea forts will be the very first of their kind that the world has seen. As regards the strength of their framework for resisting attack, it is to be noted that, being in the strictest sense homogeneous throughout, it has the great advantage that, whenever a shot strikes it, the force of impact is taken on the entire structure, and not upon an isolated point.

The armour-plate casing round each fort will be formed of three thicknesses of 5-inch plates, having spaces of 5 in. between each filled in with Portland cement concrete; but opposite to each gun there will be 17 in. thickness of armour-plates and 10 in. of concrete, the whole secured to the upright bars and the piers. Annexed are particulars of the forty-nine guns of the fort:—

Guns in Lower Tier.—Twenty-four 12-in. guns of 25 tons, throwing projectiles of 600 lb., with a charge of 85 lb. of new pebble powder. Initial velocity of shot about 1300 ft. per second, and total energy at muzzle 7000 foot tons; at 800 yards, 6000 foot tons. Palliser projectiles, from this gun will, at 200 yards, pierce 14 in. of armour, and, at 1000 yards, about 13 in.; at 2000 yards, say, 12 in. **Guns in Upper Tier.**—Twenty-five 10-in. 18-ton guns, throwing projectiles of 400 lb., with charge of 70 lb. of pebble powder. Initial velocity about 1360 ft. per second. Total energy at muzzle upwards of 5000 foot tons; at 800 yards, 4400 foot tons. Palliser projectiles will pierce 12½ in. of armour at 200 yards; 11½ in. at 1000 yards; and 10½ in. at 2000 yards. Preparations are also made for five two-gun turrets on the top of the fort, if they should be found necessary hereafter. These turret guns would be of at least 25 tons. To these particulars may be added a few relating to the armament of the two smaller forts. The Spitbank Fort will be of one tier, and bombproof. Its armament will be nine 25-ton guns (as before described) in an iron battery composed of a front made up of four thicknesses of at least 5 in. armour plates resting against an iron skeleton structure. Three of the guns look seaward, and six guns of less weight in granite casemates look towards Portsmouth Harbour and the land. The total cost of this work will be about £180,000. In the St. Helen's Fort the battery will comprise a large central turret containing two of the heaviest guns and two 10 in. 18-ton guns (such as above described) mounted

on turntables behind iron walls. The estimated cost of this fort is £120,000.

The works generally have been designed and carried out under the able direction of Colonel W. P. Drummond Jervois, C.B., R.E., who was also secretary to the Royal Commission. The ironwork of the forts was designed by Lieutenant-Colonel Inglis, R.E., in which, as also in the control of the execution, he has been assisted by Lieutenant English, R.E. The whole of the ironwork of the two principal forts has been constructed and erected at the works of the Fairbairn Company at Manchester, and will be re-erected by them at the sites of the forts, under the superintendence of the company's engineer.

Immovable as it looks, indestructible as it is designed to be, the immense fabric they have completed is about to be taken to pieces for conveyance to the south coast. The trip will doubtless be accomplished with that wonderful ease and celerity with which the railway era has made us familiar. Engineers and traffic managers contemplate a feat of this kind with equanimity. The world in general accepts the performance much as if it were the transfer of a toy palace from the dining-room to the nursery, remote as the work is from the thought of child's play. This skeleton fort is an affair of about 2400 tons in weight, but far more impressive in its visible magnitude, and there seems something colossal in the bare idea of undoing the whole of it, and so packing it off "per rail."

The foundation on No Man's Land shoal is, we believe, sufficiently advanced to receive the structure. The works, both there and on the Horse Sand Shoal, have proved very troublesome and costly operations, extending over many years. The sites ultimately selected for the four forts agree nearly with the recommendation of the Royal Commissioners of 1859, though one or two positions have had to be abandoned, owing to the difficulty of obtaining a secure foundation. For the Horse Sand Fort the foundation is laid on the shoal at a depth of 11 ft. below low-water spring tides. At the level of high-water spring tides the masonry is 210 ft. diameter. Up to a little above this level the entire base consists of massive concrete blocks, with granite and other stone walling on the outside. Upwards, to a level of about 16 ft. above high water, an outside wall of granite and Portland stone of great thickness supports the magazines, shell-rooms, and other stores. Upon this structure will stand the two-tiered circular iron fort.

Whether it be the one which has been described as finished or the one about to be begun is immaterial, since there is no difference in their design. The formations of No Man's Land Fort and Spitbank Fort present no feature very distinct from that of the Horse Sand. At Spitbank the external diameter of the masonry at high-water level is 151 ft. For the St. Helen's Fort the foundations were made by sinking a ring nearly circular, and about 130 ft. external diameter, of iron caissons through the shoal into the clay below, excavating the sand inside the ring and filling in concrete. The granite-faced structure above high-water level contains the magazines, shell-rooms, &c.

What may be the permanent value of these works in a military point of view it is not the purpose of this article to discuss. The general scope of their design was indicated at the outset, in order to set the competent reader thinking for himself, with the aid of such materials as we have been enabled to present, how far the immense interests to be protected will have been really placed beyond the reach of danger. How long may it be before some new development of the resources of attack reduces the apparent superiority of these vast and costly preparations for defence? The question will be asked by those who are unlearned in the subject, but not inexperienced in the course of events, and those who are at once the most learned and the most experienced will, doubtless, be prepared with an answer. The answer of the responsible authorities is, indeed, the works themselves, which would not have been persevered in without the most cogent reasons. Their design has undergone many changes since the time when no heavier gun was contemplated than the old smooth-bore 68-pounder. Mention has been made of "bomb-proof roofs," but, in point of fact, these sea forts are supposed to be beyond the practical need of any such protection from an enemy.

There is no roof required for the interior of the circle, within which will be the barracks and storehouses of the fort. It is believed that no hostile fleet or vessel could come near enough under fire of the fort to get the requisite elevation for sending a shell over the roof of the circular gun tiers or upon it. While so much can be said, the presumption will be that the iron guards of Spithead are as invincible as they look, and that the grand total of expenditure, when the account for each item is closed, will have been justified by what there is to show for it.—Times.

THE CHICAGO RELIEF FUND.—The Chicago committee having in charge the distribution of the relief fund have made another report, wherein they state that they have received an aggregate sum of 2,485,884 dol., of which 1,875,062 dol. was contributed in the United States, and 610,822 dol. by foreign countries. New York sent the largest sum, 401,557 dol., and England next, 358,410 dol. Massachusetts contributed 297,305 dol.; Pennsylvania, 228,363 dol.; Maryland, 179,327 dol.; California, 148,281 dol.; and other States smaller sums, the least being from Alabama, 5 dol. Of foreign contributions, besides the 358,410 dol. from England, Canada sent 82,695 dol.; France 42,200 dol.; Ireland, 36,948 dol.; Germany 36,356 dol.; Scotland 31,000 dol.; Austria 12,500 dol.; Cuba 10,000 dol.; Italy 271 dol.; and Holland 112 dol. In expending the fund, the committee say they have built 5497 temporary houses, giving shelter to 20,000 to 25,000 people, the average cost being nearly 100 dol. The intention is to increase this number of houses to 8000. In the majority of cases these houses are gifts to their occupants. There are also four barracks, which shelter 1000 families. There are altogether 18,478 families receiving aid from the fund. Of the families relieved the largest number are Germans, 7280; and the next Irish, 5512. There are also 2104 Scandinavian families receiving relief, and 1724 Americans, these being the four largest classes, and aggregating four fifths of the whole number. Of the balance, 599 families are English, 195 Scotch, 185 French, 112 Italian, 208 Bohemian, and 241 African. This report shows to a remarkable degree how small a portion of some American communities are really American. The committee estimate that their aggregate expenditure already made and to be made until April next will be 3,976,498 dol. The total contributions remitted and held at various places subject to draught are stated at 3,418,188 dol., so that a deficit of over half a million dollars is anticipated.

A BELGIAN DEPUTY ON WAR.—The following shrewd speech has just been delivered in the Legislature at Brussels by one of its prominent members:—"Like my honourable friend M. le Hardy de Beaulieu, I feel it my duty to tell you this year, as I did last and hope to do next, why I vote against the war budget. I vote against this budget because I am an enemy (not, however, a platonic one, as many are) of standing armies and war—because I would protest against them (as I do at this moment in the Belgian Parliament) either in Germany or France if I were a Frenchman or a German. I vote against this budget because our army, were it well organised—and, unfortunately, it is not—would be powerless to defend our territory. I vote against this budget because it sanctions a most monstrous injustice—conscription. I vote against this most detestable budget because it allows the most unjust advantage of wealth over poverty; because it condemns to imprisonment for several years the individual who has not 1500 fr. or 2000 fr. to free him self from the service of the barracks. Lastly, I vote against this budget because it takes away one third of our resources, without reckoning the fortifications and other accessory expenses. I think I have said enough to show you the reason of my vote. Let us not lose sight of it, gentlemen; this is one of the most important subjects with which we have to deal. It is important from a moral point of view because it sanctions an abuse of the power of riches; also from a material point of view, because how much good might not be done with the fifty millions (francs) swallowed up each year in militarism? In each political programme of candidates for election the military subject is sure to be found. Party strife has turned aside this great movement; but it will come to life again. Let the deputies of our great commercial city be on their guard; their political life will be short indeed if they forget that, above all, Antwerp has always protested, still protests, and will always protest, against fortifications and the war budget. Before I sit down let me say a word to the majority sincerely Catholic, to the majority of which Count de Theux is representative. I address myself to him in particular. I remarked last year that, in my opinion, conscription was anti-Christian, and that sincere Christians could not approve of it. At that time I was not aware that it was anti-dogmatical, also, in fact, a heresy. I am indebted to a sincere Catholic on the Right for the knowledge that it is condemned by Pius IX. You hear this, gentlemen; where Pius IX. has pronounced, in your opinion, everyone must keep silence. Give, then, your vote, in the name of religion, against the war budget."

INSTRUCTION IN SCIENCE AND ART FOR WOMEN

PROFESSOR GUTHRIE delivered the second of his series of lectures on "Physics and Chemistry," in the South Kensington Museum, last Saturday, when, notwithstanding the forbidding character of the weather, there was a good attendance, consisting entirely of ladies, as usual. The Professor began by recapitulating some of the points touched upon in his previous lecture, more particularly with regard to the principles of mechanical force, which he now proceeded to explain and illustrate at greater length. He showed how mechanical force may be represented by straight lines, varying in length and direction, according to the amount of the force employed and the direction in which it is applied. For example, a force equal to a pound weight may be represented by a straight line a foot long, and on that scale a force equal to three pounds' weight would, of course, be represented by a straight line a yard in length. No matter what length of line be taken to represent a given force; no matter what we start with, provided we are consistent throughout. In the previous lecture it was shown, by way of illustration, that if two horses of equal strength, or exerting equal strength, pull against each other on a plane in the same straight line, the result, or "resultant," of their action is nil; that if two horses of unequal strength so pull against each other, in opposite directions, the resultant is the difference of their action; and that if the two pull together in the same direction the resultant is equal to the sum of their action. But the matter becomes more complicated when the horses do not pull in the same straight line, but in lines which make an angle to each other; and still further complicated when the ground of action is an inclined plane. The principle involved in the first instance, in the case of mechanical force exerted on a given point by two horses pulling in lines which make an angle to each other, Professor Guthrie illustrated by drawing a parallelogram, divided by a diagonal line into triangles, making the long and short sides of a triangle represent respectively a horse and a pony pulling at the same point, and the diagonal line, or base of the triangle, a third horse, which, pulling against the other horse and the pony, would keep these at rest. It is assumed, of course, according to the rule already laid down, express the amount as well as the direction of the mechanical force exerted in each case. The force exerted upon the given point by the first horse and the pony might be expressed, say, by five units for the former and three for the latter, whilst that exerted by the third or counteracting animal, in order to hold the other two at rest, would be expressed, say, by seven, or something less than eight, the combined strength of five and three. In general terms, the principle is that when three forces thus keep each other at rest or in equilibrium, they are as the two sides of the diagonal of a parallelogram. In other words, if two forces acting upon a given point at the same time are represented in direction and magnitude by straight lines drawn through that point the resultant of these two forces is represented, both in direction and magnitude, by the diagonal of the parallelogram. This principle applies to the three forces mentioned in last lecture, which keep a carriage at rest on an inclined plane: the force exerted by the horse, the weight of the carriage, and the pressure on the plane. These three forces must be in the same relation to one another as the three sides of a triangle, the base expressing the resultant of the forces represented by the two other sides. This fact the lecturer illustrated by means of a board representing an inclined plane, with a roller held upon it by a weight suspended by means of a cord and pulley over the raised end of the board or plane. He went on to say that, when a force resists a force so as to keep it at rest, there is only in one sense work done. There is no visible work performed. A table resists the descent of a block of wood, for instance, but the two forces might go on for centuries, and there would be no work done visibly. This leads to the consideration of one of the most important chapters in the whole science of physics—namely, the consideration of the question what real work is—work done. Take a familiar illustration. Supposing we have a load of bricks at the foot of a building: the problem is to raise these bricks to the top. If a load of bricks be raised from the ground to the roof of a building, the same amount of work is ultimately done whether the bricks be lifted all at once, by hoistsful at a time, or singly. If 100 bricks are raised 100 ft., double as much work is done as when 100 bricks are raised 50 ft., or 50 bricks 100 ft. If 100 bricks are raised 1 ft., the same amount of work is done as when one brick is raised 100 ft. The unit of work is the work done when 1 lb. weight is raised 1 ft. Whether the bricks be lifted up one by one, or bodily by means of some machine, the amount of work performed is ultimately the same. In considering this question exactly we must get rid of the notion of the lifting of the weight by the hoistman, whose body we must regard as without weight. There is a certain force required to lift the bricks, and that force must act with a certain effort and through a certain space; and it is clear that the object of lifting the bricks to the top of the building is attained by the same amount of force, whether they be lifted slowly or swiftly, singly or bodily. In simple words, the work done is directly in proportion to the weight raised and the height to which it is lifted. This work done is like the power residing in an elastic spring, which when compressed strains to restore itself to its original shape. This is potential work. So with the bricks; the work done when they are lifted to the top of the building is not lost, and in falling down they would give out as much work as was expended in raising them to the given height. We cannot cheat Nature with regard to the amount of work we take out of her. She is so strict in her accounts, we cannot by the exercise of a small amount of labour do a great amount of work, although this remark may seem to be in contradiction to our familiar notions about those machines and appliances by which labour is facilitated. A machine, properly so called, is an instrument for altering the magnitude, direction, or point of application of a force; but by no machine can the amount of "work done" be increased. By means of a machine a single brick sinking 100 ft. may be made to lift one hundred bricks one foot. This principle is exhibited on the lever, the wheel and axle, the pulley, the wedge, and other appliances. The "mechanical advantage" of a machine is the proportion between the two forces which keep one another at rest on the machine. The same proportion is obtained by comparing the paths of the points of application of the forces when the machine moves. To use ordinary language, "what is gained in power is lost in distance," and "what is gained in power is lost in time." In this way we can overcome resistance we could not overcome otherwise, but we do not gain in work done. Having given illustrations of this fact by means of the lever, the wheel and axle, the pulley and the wedge, Professor Guthrie went on to show that the same great law which governs mechanical force in regard to solids applies also to liquids, the only material point of difference between solids and liquids being that the latter have less cohesion than the former, assuming the shape of the vessel in which they may be placed, and transmitting pressure equally in all directions. He explained the principle of the hydraulic press, which might be compared to a lever of unequal arms.

Professor Guthrie gave another of his series of lectures on "Physics and Chemistry," on Wednesday, in the South Kensington Museum. Following up the observations he made in his previous lecture regarding the properties of solids and liquids in relation to force, he showed that when a solid is plunged into a liquid a volume of water is displaced and lifted equal to the volume of that solid; and hence, that when a solid is in a liquid it will be pressed upwards by a force equal to the weight of the liquid equal in volume to the solid. Every mass of matter strives to get to the earth, and in descending through water it has to overcome the weight of that water, and is resisted to that extent. When a body is totally immersed in the liquid it is pulled down by its original weight, but it is pushed up by the weight of the volume of water which it displaces. If these two forces be equal—that is, if the weight of the body be exactly equal to the weight of the same volume of

liquid, then the body remains at rest, and is in indifferent equilibrium—that is to say, it rests anywhere you like to put it in the liquid. If the weight of the body is greater than the weight of an equal volume of liquid, then, although the apparent weight of the body is diminished and will not fall with so much force, yet it will fall, and the force with which it falls, or is pulled down, is the difference between the weight of the body and the weight of an equal volume of liquid. If the weight of the body be less than the weight of an equal volume of the liquid, that body plunged into the liquid will rise with a force which we are accustomed to call buoyancy, and that force will be equal to the difference between the weight of the body and the weight of an equal volume of liquid. This leads to the consideration of what is called "specific gravity"—the specific gravity of a body being ascertained by a comparison of its weight with an equal volume of water, which is taken as a standard, and gives at a certain temperature a perfectly constant weight. Now, mechanical forces or pressures are conveniently represented and measured by weights. The weight of a body is represented by the force with which it descends to the earth, and which varies with the size of the body, with the nature of the substance of which it is composed, and with its distance from the earth. The lecturer went on to say that the standard of weight is different in different countries, and that no two standards have a simple relation to one another; and explained the meaning of the metre and its subdivisions. If the distance along the earth's surface from the equator to the pole be divided into 10,000,000 equal parts, each of those parts is a metre—between 39 in. and 40 in.—while a tenth of a metre is a decimetre, and the tenth of a decimetre, or the hundredth of a metre, a centimetre. A cubic centimetre of pure water, at a certain temperature, weighs a gramme. The temperature at which the water is taken as a standard, and at which it is densest, is 4 deg. centigrade above the freezing. It is generally assumed, as it facilitates explanation, that matter of all kinds consists of very small particles, of unknown size, shape, or weight, called atoms, which are not in contact with each other. The atoms in the case of solids are held together by considerable force, called "cohesion;" but the cohesion in liquids is much less, and in the case of gases it is inappreciable. When the pressure on a gas is increased the volume of the gas is diminished. When the pressure is doubled the volume is halved. When the pressure is made three times as great the volume is made one third of the original size, and so on. This is expressed by saying that the volume varies inversely as the pressure. The density varies with the pressure, being doubled when the pressure is doubled, and so on. The air, which is the type of gases, as water is the type of liquids, has weight, whereby it is held to the earth. Bodies on the earth are squeezed by the weight of the air above them. In deep mines this weight is sensibly greater, on the tops of mountains sensibly less, than at the sea level. The air itself is squeezed by its own weight. Hence it is more dense at the earth's surface than above it. It may be likened to a compressed spiral spring. Its effort to expand is called its tension. Every square inch of surface is, at the sea level, pressed upon to the amount of from 14 lb. to 15 lb. If a cylinder of one square inch bore be closed at one end and open at the other it will require a force of about 15 lb. to drag a piston from the bottom of the cylinder. A vacuum will be formed between the bottom and the piston. We have such a cylinder in a barometer, which is simply an instrument for measuring the pressure of the air. By means of a solid piston, accurate results could not be arrived at, there being too much friction. Hence we use a liquid substance instead. The piston is the mercury, and the force is the weight of the mercury. If the bore of the tube be doubled, the pressure of the air will be doubled, but the weight of the mercury is doubled also, so that its height remains the same—about 30 inches. If the bottom of the cylinder of one square inch bore, above described, be connected by a tube with a closed vessel containing air (which, like all air, is in a state of compression) the air will rush into the cylinder, and the piston is pulled out. It will, therefore, occupy a greater volume or be rarefied. The air-pump, the lecturer further explained, is a machine for repeating this rarefaction, and the suction-pump and the syphon also depend upon the pressure of the air for their principle of operation. As on former occasions, the lecture was illustrated throughout by experiments.

TRADE OF 1871.

It is really a wondrous tale that is told of our foreign trade in the year 1871 by the Board of Trade in its "Accounts Relating to Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom." The imports of merchandise into this country in the year have been of the unprecedented value of £326,831,647, leaving an amount that is really immense even when we have allowed a sixth or a fifth for re-exports of articles not consumed here; and the exports of the produce and manufactures of the United Kingdom in the year reached the (also unprecedented) value of £219,319,071. Taking up the table of imports, raw materials for manufacture claim our notice first of all. The imports of raw cotton amounted to no less than 15,843,890 cwt.—a quantity which may be described as never before approached; but the computed value—viz., £55,767,545, or more than a million a week—has been not only approached but exceeded in the years of dear cotton, when American cotton averaged from £10 to £13 or more per cwt. In 1871 more than 9,000,000 cwt. of our supply came from the United States, nearly 4,000,000 cwt. from India, and 1,500,000 cwt. from Egypt. Our supply of foreign (sheep and lambs') wool in 1871 may also be spoken of as never approached in any former year. It amounted to 319,511,336 lb., of the computed value of £17,436,866, a sum slightly exceeded in 1866, though the quantity in that year was under 240 million lb. In 1871 our import of wool included 183 million lb. from Australia and 32 millions from South Africa. Our import of raw silk in 1871 attained the large amount of 8,251,486 lb., of the value of £8,915,056. Of flax (dressed and undressed) and tow we imported the large quantity of 2,597,915 cwt., of the value of £5,791,188; and of hemp (dressed and undressed) and tow as much as 1,320,747 cwt., of the value of £2,376,392; also jute of the value of 4 millions sterling. The import of hides, not tanned, comprised 1,278,351 cwt., of the value of £3,834,917, one third of the sum being the price of the supply from India. The importation of wood and timber exceeded 12 millions sterling in value, British North America taking above one fourth of that amount for the supply sent to us thence. Esparto grass and other vegetable fibre for making paper have risen, among the imports, to a value of 1½ million sterling. But we may pass from the imports of raw material, which is food for trade, to imports of food for man. Here corn and breadstuffs take the lead, and represent the large value of more than 42 millions sterling. The import of oxen, sheep, and other animals in the year reached a value of £5,662,000; of bacon, 2½ millions; of pork, £700,000; of cheese, £3,313,000; of butter, nearly 7 millions; eggs, 1½ million; lard, £1,300,000. The rice imported represents £2,320,000; currants, raisins, more than 2 millions sterling; sugar and molasses, 18½ millions; tobacco, £3,700,000; oranges and lemons, 1 million; hops, £900,000. Then come spirits, £2,896,000, to add to the home-made article; wine to an unprecedented value, exceeding 7 millions sterling; tea, more than 1½ millions; and coffee, nearly 5½ millions sterling. There are several items of very large value in the list of imports of 1871—oils, £5,760,000; petroleum, £615,000; oil-seed cake, 1½ million; guano, 2 millions; seeds, above 7 millions; tallow, 3 millions; indigo, nearly a million; camelline, more than 1½ million; leather gloves, £1,300,000. An import of textile manufactures we regard as almost like "carrying coals to Newcastle;" but so it was that 1871 saw an import into this country of cotton manufactures to the value of nearly 1½ million of money, and woollens 4½ millions. In silks we are more open to competition, and the year's import of silk manufactures exceeded 6 millions sterling, but was much less than usual.

If now we turn to the exports from the United Kingdom, in 1871, of British and Irish produce and manufactures, and begin with the textile manufactures which we send into every part of the world, we find that the year saw an export of cotton manufactures of the value of £57,635,570. The enormous quantity of 3,410,901,522 yards of cotton piece goods (more than 9 million yards a day) was sent forth from our shores, India and China being our chief customers. Further to fulfil our work of clothing mankind, we exported woollen and worsted manufactures of the unprecedented value of £27,181,704, the quantity of one sort or another averaging more than a million yards a day. For this class of goods the United States stands at the head of our list of customers. Of linen manufactures the year's export exceeded the value of 7½ millions sterling, and of silk manufactures 2 millions. The export of yarns was also very large, reaching the value of 15 millions sterling in the article of cotton, 6 millions of woollen, 2½ millions linen and jute, and 1½ million silk. The jute manufactures exported exceeded a million sterling in value. The export of clothes shows a value of nearly 6 millions sterling in haberdashery and millinery, and of £2,700,000 in apparel and slops; Australia, British North America, and the United States are the chief customers for these goods. Leather manufactures exported amounted in value to nearly 2 millions, three fourths being for boots and shoes; and saddlery and harness add the other half million to the account. The great item of iron in the exports is greater than ever. Putting together all our exports of iron and steel in 1871, from pig upwards, all of it the produce of this country and work of our hands, we exported 3,171,581 tons, of the value of £23,149,136, or not very far from an eighth of the value of the entire exports of our produce and manufactures. This item has doubled itself in the last seven years. The United States continue to be very large customers for our iron manufactures. In 1871 there was exported thither from this country railroad iron of the value of nearly 4 millions sterling, and tin plates of the value of more than 2 millions. Germany, Russia, and Holland make a fair show among our customers for iron; and British North America took above half a million's worth of railroad iron, and other iron goods to the value of above £800,000. The export of telegraphic wire exceeded the value of 1½ million. Copper, wrought and unwrought, makes an item of nearly three millions' worth; lead, put together pig, sheet, tubing, &c., £860,000; tin, unwrought, £762,000. Machinery and mill-work exported show an increased value; steam-engines exceeding £2,000,000, and other descriptions £3,886,000. Above £1,100,000 of the amount is made up of export of machinery to Russia. The exports of hardware and cutlery unenumerated advanced to a value of more than four millions, the United States being at the head of the customers. Earthenware stands for £1,728,000, the United States taking the lead here also, and adding £731,000 to their account. The export of our coal increases year by year, and in 1871 reached 12,816,434 tons, of the value of £6,267,017, above a million being for coal sent to Germany. British coal of the value of £353,000 was sent all the way to India. We must not overlook our ale and beer, which, to the value of £1,870,000, we exported to various parts of the world—to India to the amount of £494,000, and to Australia, £318,000. Arms, ammunition, and military stores represent in the table of exports a value of £2,394,000.

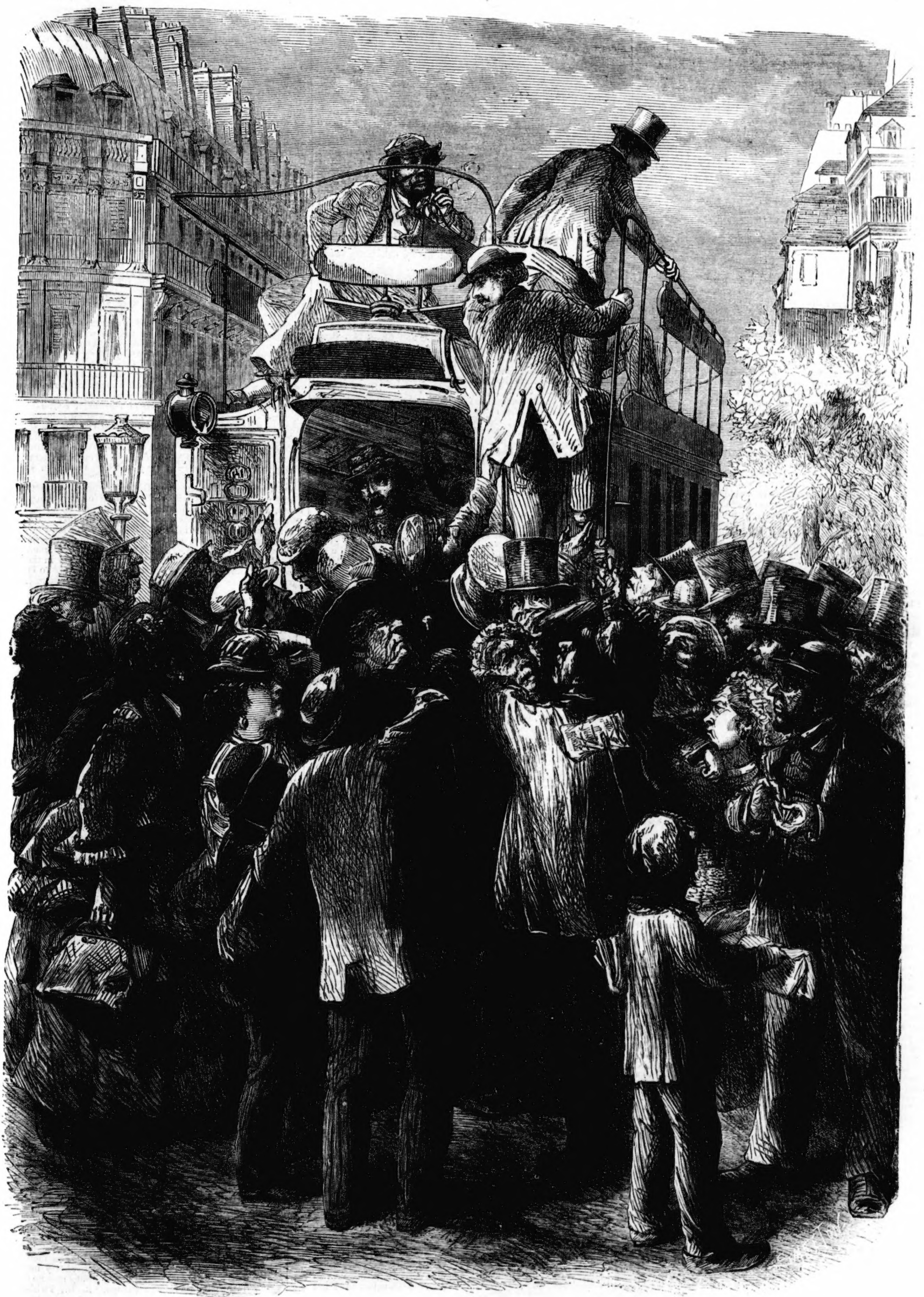
These items show that we were not idle in 1871. We were working people, and we did our stroke of work. Of course, we required much shipping to bring our imports and to carry forth our produce. The official returns show that in the year 1871 British vessels of (in the aggregate) 11,236,507 tons entered inwards at ports of the United Kingdom with cargoes from abroad (including repeated voyages), showing an increase of 926,393 tons over the preceding year; and foreign vessels of 5,176,595 tons, an increase of 575,034 tons; making a total of 16,413,102 tons, an increase of 1,501,427 tons over the preceding year. The clearances outwards in 1871 with cargoes for abroad comprised British vessels of 13,407,178 tons, an increase of 1,476,038 tons; and foreign vessels of 5,677,954 tons, an increase of 894,429 tons; making a total of 19,085,132 tons, showing the large increase of 2,370,467 tons. Classing the shipping according to the sources of trade, we find vessels of 13,443,861 tons arriving with cargoes from foreign ports, an increase of 1,335,656 tons; and vessels of 2,969,241 tons from British possessions, an increase of 165,771 tons. Vessels of 15,825,082 tons cleared with cargoes for foreign countries, an increase of as much as 2,052,313 tons; and vessels of 3,260,050 tons for British possessions, an increase of 318,154 tons. The list of vessels entered shows the arrival of ships of (in the aggregate) 2,555,227 tons from the United States, 1,612,516 from Russia, 1,501,468 from Germany, 1,310,405 from France, 1,165,934 from our North American colonies, 958,988 from Sweden, 924,953 from India. The table of the nationality of the vessels arrived shows 11,236,507 tons British, 1,350,349 Norwegian, 1,013,743 German, 667,607 United States. This last item shows an increase, the United States shipping entering our ports with cargoes amounting to 387,809 tons in 1869, and 496,776 in 1870. It is not necessary to enumerate also in detail the clearances. The number of ships employed is not stated in the returns now issued, but will doubtless be given in the *Annual Statement of Trade*, which is promised early in this year.—Times.

ECCLIASTICAL PREFERMENTS.—The Queen has been pleased to nominate the Rev. George Alexander Allan, M.A., to the district church at Cinderford, in the Forest of Dean. Marquis Townshend has presented the Rev. George John Riddale, M.A., Vicar of South Crenke, near Fakenham, to the vicarage of Helthoughton with South Raynham, near Brandon. The Earl of Stamford and Warrington has presented the Rev. Robert Troadale, B.A., Curate of Bowden, Cheshire, to the vicarage of Iltham-cum-Groby, near Leicester, vacant by the death of the Rev. Robert Martin, M.A. The Dean and Chapter of Canterbury have presented the Rev. Ebenezer Curling Lucey, M.A., Vicar of St. Margaret's, Dover, to the vicarage of West Cliff, vacant by the prebend of the Rev. J. H. Sparrow to the vicarage of Wilesbrough. The Dean and Chapter of Chester have presented the Rev. Henry John Storr to the vicarage of Eastham, near Chester, in the room of the Rev. R. M. Smith.

PERSONAL STATISTICS.—The oldest member of her Majesty's Privy Council is Lord St. Leonard, aged 90; the youngest, his Royal Highness Prince Arthur, aged 21. The oldest Duke is the Duke of Leinster, aged 80; the youngest, the Duke of Norfolk, aged 24. The oldest Marquis is the Marquis of Tweeddale, aged 84; the youngest, the Marquis of Ely, aged 22. The oldest Earl is the Earl of Leren and Melville, aged 85; the youngest, the Earl of Carnarvon, aged 13. The oldest Viscount is Viscount Molesworth, aged 85; the youngest, Viscount Clifden, aged 8. The oldest Baron is Lord St. Leonard, aged 90; the youngest, Lord Kenyon, aged 7. The oldest member of the House of Commons is Mr. William Hodgson Barrow, M.P. for South Notts, aged 87; the youngest, Lord Henry Somerset, M.P. for Monmouthshire, aged 22. The oldest Judge in England is the Right Hon. Sir Fitzroy Kelly, Lord Chief Baron of the Court of Exchequer, aged 75; the youngest, Sir Henry Hannan, Queen's Bench, aged 51. The oldest Judge in Ireland is the Right Hon. David R. Pigot, Chief Baron of the Court of Exchequer, aged 71; the youngest, the Right Hon. Michael Morris, Common Pleas, aged 44. The oldest Scotch Lord of Session is Hercules J. Robertson, Lord Benholme, aged 75; the youngest, Lord Gifford, aged 51. The oldest prelate of the Church of England is the Bishop of St. David's (Dr. Glynne Thirlwall), aged 74; the youngest, Dr. Edward Parry, suffragan Bishop of Dover, aged 41. The oldest Bishop of the Irish Church is Dr. Robert Daly, Bishop of Derry, aged 47. The oldest Bishop of the Colonial and Missionary Church is the Right Rev. Aubrey G. Spencer, Bishop of Jamaica, aged 76; the youngest, the Rev. Alfred Willis, Bishop of Banguate of Honolulu, aged 35. The oldest Bishop of the Scotch Episcopal Church is the Right Rev. Charles H. Terrot, Bishop of Edinburgh, aged 81; the youngest, the Right Rev. Alexander F. Forbes, Bishop of Brechin, aged 54. The oldest of the retired Bishops are the Right Rev. Thomas V. Short, late Bishop of St. Asaph, and the Right Rev. Charles R. Sumner, late Bishop of Winchester, each aged 81; the youngest, the Right Rev. Henry L. Jenner, late Bishop of Dunedin, aged 51. The oldest Baronet is Sir Thomas Beckett, aged 92; the youngest, Sir Arthur Victor Rumbold, aged 2. The oldest Knights are General Sir John Ball, G.C.B., and Sir George Rose, F.R.S., each aged 89; the youngest, Sir Charles Henry Firth, aged 35. The oldest Recorder in England is Thomas Batty Addison, Recorder of Preston, aged 84; the youngest, Frederick A. Philbrick, Recorder of Colchester, aged 36.—Who's Who in 1872.



PRESENT ASPECT OF THE POND OF AUTEUIL IN THE BOIS DE BOULOGNE, PARIS.



STRUGGLE FOR SEATS IN A PARIS OMNIBUS.

THE BOIS DE BOULOGNE, PARIS, NEAR THE POND OF AUTEUIL.

ONLY a week ago, in writing about the aspect of Paris on the fête of the Jour de l'An, we were speaking of the rapid recovery made by the French capital since the investment, and of the extraordinary faculty of recuperation which belongs to the character of the people. There are places around the gay metropolis, however, where the sorrowful memorials of the desperate calamity which has befallen France will not soon be obliterated. It may be easy to patch up the shot-holes in a wall, and ingenious workmen even resorted to the device of hiding the ravages made by cannon-balls by means of strong paper covered with plaster of Paris, or a coat of Roman cement; but where you have a bare, melancholy waste of country, with the earth, that once formed grassy slopes or trim shrubberies, all heaped in tumuli and dotted with objects that look like graves marked by rude monuments; where the great trees, that once whispered pleasantly to holiday-makers who sought their shade, are cut down, their blackened, rotting stumps only remaining; where the ornamental lake oozes sluggishly in the thick weedy-grass till it becomes a mere pond full of that renewal of life which we call decay—no temporary expedients suffice to conceal such ravages, and the whole place is one sad monument of defeat and melancholy remembrance. In a word, it would be possible to rebuild all the palaces in the world, but nobody can make a great tree grow again. One is impressed with this reflection on taking a stroll towards the spot represented in our engraving, where the grand old oaks with mighty trunks and spreading branches—themselves remains of the evil days of 1815—have disappeared, and the destruction of the charming suburban retreat has been completed by the invasion of 1870.

This portion of the Park of Princes was the most charming and picturesque spot of the whole wood, full of verdure and brightness. In other places a good deal of French decorative or operatic picturesqueness had been added to it, and, though nature can often compensate even for this sort of interference, we want to escape from it at intervals and seek some remoter shade, some lodge in a wilderness more or less vast. This was to be found in the beautiful copse near the pond of Auteuil, now, alas! a wilderness. The fresh oasis, far from the dust and turmoil of Paris, is but a dismal swamp. A few surviving trees appear on the horizon, like the last survivors of a brigade cut down on the field of battle. No fair Amazons canter gaily along the open space; no promenaders appear on what once were pleasant walks. When we were last there, one solitary little woman, in a white bonnet, represented the throng that once resorted to the pleasant spot, and she seemed to be looking into the gloomy pond, as though she could see reflected there the picture of the melancholy events that had transformed the spot to its present dreary condition. Overhead the dark rain-clouds, tossed and twisted by the winter wind, cast a gloomy shadow over the whole scene, and, but for an occasional ray that shot through the overhanging pall, there would have been little cheering influence. That one glimpse of golden light, however, was in itself an augury. Other trees, growing young giants, may be transplanted, and brought to fill the bare spaces around the pond; another copse may yet spring fresh and green on the site of the first; but France will have undergone great changes before this can come to pass.

A FIGHT FOR THE OMNIBUS IN PARIS.

It is a degrading spectacle to witness—the struggle for a place in the omnibus on a wet night. The cynical philosopher who stands at the Royal Exchange to watch the "buses" that are about to start for Hackney, Edmonton, and Stamford-hill will surely have his contempt for the age and the manners apparently justified when he sees how strong men thrust wet, weak, and bedraggled women aside, and secure themselves a seat by dint of cleaving their way with umbrella and elbow. At almost every starting-place whence conveyances run to the most populous suburbs similar scenes have recently been enacted for several weeks, and the conscientious moralist has found himself out of pocket by the necessity which has been laid on him of paying for a cab rather than engage in the unseemly effort to trample on the feeble and assert the supreme rule of deadly selfishness.

He is apt to say, with a sigh, "Ah! they manage things better in —," but there, if he be a truthful moralist, he stops, not being quite certain that the old saying will hold good. France, and especially Paris, has seen a good many changes since the author of the "Sentimental Journey" bought his gloves there. In point of fact, there is less of the old orderliness and patience, and mutual politeness and forbearance in the Paris of to-day. At the theatres the "queue" is less docile; and, although the crowd goes in with less of an ugly rush than at a London pantomime at Christmas time, the barriers that reduce the applicants for admission to a single file have more strain upon them, and are not always adopted. What would be the conduct of a crowd if the people were now called upon to invest in national securities it would be difficult to say; but in times of popular quietude a Parisian assembly is generally orderly and patient, satisfying itself with occasional verbal encounters and abstaining from that horse-play which too often distinguishes London mobs when "the rough" is a prominent element. At the omnibus-station, however, especially on Sundays, and at the places where vehicles start for resorts outside the barrier, there is often a desperate struggle, which painfully reminds the English visitor of his countrymen at the Angel at Islington, the Bank, St. John's-wood, and other points of departure. The omnibus service of Paris, too, like our own, has been far from keeping pace with the wants of the public. How can we expect a very definite progress in an institution which has not yet been in existence half a century? It was in 1825 that omnibuses first appeared in the French capital. Was it Pascal who said that the inventor of the wheelbarrow did a great work? What a public benefactor, then, was the bold originator of the omnibus! A hundred and fifty years ago Parisian grand seigneurs who did not have carriages of their own were glad of the *carrosse*, or hackney coach; but even then the spirit of enterprise led some proprietor to start *carrosses à cinq sous*; though, unhappily, they met with the fate which recently befel the short, one-horse omnibuses brought out in London, and had to retire before the ridicule of a profane crowd, who laughed the twopenny-halfpenny carriage out of existence. At the time of the great Revolution in France the old coaches were the only public conveyances; and when Turgot organised the diligence service it was hailed with enthusiasm, and the new vehicles were at once named Turgotines. Then came the railways and the popular new carriage—the vehicle of the multitude—which was signalled at once by the quaint name of omnibus. Perhaps the vehicular statistics of Paris in the year 1870 are but little suggestive; but there were 694 vehicles running for about 59,000 kilometres; a dozen, 21,000,000 kilometres a year. The service required 4000 men and 9000 horses. The number of passengers was 105,000,000.

THE BISHOP OF MANCHESTER ON WORKING MEN'S CLUBS.—A conference on working men's clubs commenced on Wednesday morning at the Townhall, Manchester—the Bishop of Manchester presiding. Mr. Henry Solly, organising secretary, was present. The Bishop said he had observed from the London papers that the scheme had not got beyond the range of discussion and of somewhat bitter controversy, and unless it did he had no sanguine hope of its success. He thought the working classes had been objects of too much patronage and "coddling," and that if they could not stand on their own legs the upper classes could not help them. They must not be dealt with as children, but as men. Clubs for working men should be formed precisely on the terms of the upper classes, where they could order their wine or beer, and play a game of billiards or backgammon. They must deal with the question in a liberal spirit, and not be afraid of the working classes, who were not more revolutionary than the members of any other class.

MUSIC.

CONCERT-GIVERS are recovering but slowly from the effects of the Christmas holidays; and this week we have to mention but three entertainments, the first of which—in order as in importance—was the "Molday Popular." Madame Neruda resumed her post as "leader" on Monday evening, Herr Straus taking the viola, and adding not a little to the perfection of *ensemble*, so absolutely necessary when chamber music is in hand. The concerted works performed were no strangers to the audience. Mozart's quartet in G minor, for pianoforte and strings; Beethoven's "Serenade" trio, and Haydn's quartet in C major (op. 33), are well known at St. James's Hall, if, indeed, they do not rank among prime favourites. It is needless, therefore, to enlarge upon their character and merits. Whatever in them savours of the highest art—and how much answers this description!—has long aomet with appreciation at the hands of cultivated amateurs. The performance was all that could be desired, save, perhaps, in Mozart's quartet, which suffered slightly by the association of artists not familiar with each other's reading. The trio was beautifully rendered, Madame Neruda's grace and charm being very conspicuous; and the same remark applies with regard to Haydn's quartet. A new pianist, Mlle. Carreno, appeared at this concert, and played, as her solo, Beethoven's E flat sonata (op. 27). Our musical readers must be more or less familiar with the young South American artist, who has now attained the highest rank open to her in England. Of course, it remains a matter of opinion whether Mlle. Carreno proved herself, on Monday night, worthy the distinction of a place among Mr. Chappell's select band of pianists. This, however, is certain, that the audience—a body very well able to judge—gave a favourable, and seemingly unanimous, verdict, recalling the debutante twice, and listening complacently even when she played, as an inappropriate encore piece, Rubinstein's transcription of Beethoven's Dervish Chorus. The vocalist was Miss Fennell, whose agreeable voice is winning favour. Her songs comprised "Lascio ch'io pianga" and Schubert's "The Mighty Trees Bend." Mr. Charles Hallé will be the pianist at next Monday's concert.

The third of Mr. John Boosey's Ballad Concerts took place in St. James's Hall, on Wednesday evening, and again Mr. Sims Reeves delighted the audience by his unequalled singing. The great tenor gave Blumenthal's "Requital," Macfarren's "My own, my guiding star," and "My Pretty Jane." For the two first he declined encores, but consented to throw in "Tom Bowling" as a *bonne bouche* after Bishop's song. How all were delivered it is wholly unnecessary to say. Madame Sherrington won an encore for Gounod's "A Message of Love," which, however, she did not repeat; and Miss Banks was equally successful with "The Bailiff's Daughter," as was Mr. Byron with Morgan's "My sweetheart when a boy." These were the striking achievements of the evening; but other songs were acceptably rendered by Miss Enriquez, Miss Fennell, and Mr. Lewis Thomas. The pianist was Miss Kate Roberts, who played Handel's "Harmonious Blacksmith" in excellent style. Some concerted pieces by the Orpheus Glee Union agreeably varied the entertainment. We regret to state that Madame Rudersdorff, who had been announced to appear, could not do so by reason of severe indisposition.

A concert took place in the Albert Hall, on Thursday evening, at which Mr. William Carter's new cantata, "Placida," was repeated; and a new anthem, by the same composer, was given for the first time. The anthem is one of thanksgiving for the recovery of the Prince of Wales, and has therefore a special interest just now.

A "Musical and Lyric Academy" was inaugurated at 43, Great Portland-street, on Wednesday evening, by means of a concert and ball. The objects of this institution are manifold, and comprise the general well-being of art and artists. To this end classes for instruction are in course of formation. There will also be weekly soirées, a reading-room, and numerous other appliances. In matters of this sort, however, the public like to know who are the managers, and what guarantee of efficiency they supply. Hence it is unfortunate for the scheme that only the name of Mr. A. D. de Lavigerie appears on the prospectus. Of Wednesday's proceedings it is unnecessary to speak, an inaugural ceremony being always couleur de rose. When the decorations are removed, and work has to be done, then comes the test. Meanwhile, as the Academy's aims are good, we wish it all prosperity.

The Crystal Palace Saturday Concerts are resumed this afternoon, with a programme including Schumann's first symphony, the "Emperor" concert of Beethoven, and other works of great interest.

The fourth subscription oratorio concert which is to take place on Tuesday next, the 23rd inst., at Exeter Hall, will consist of "The Creation" and Mr. Barnby's sacred cantata "Rebekah," which was produced at these concerts two years ago, and afterwards performed at the Hereford Festival. The principal artists will be Madame Corn de Wilhorst, Mr. Sims Reeves, Mr. Maas, Mr. Thurlay Beale, and Herr Stockhausen. This concert is specially announced to commence at half-past seven.

COLONEL HENDERSON, the Chief Commissioner of Police, has applied to the Westminster District Board of Works for permission to erect a covered cab-stand at Knightsbridge, at the top of Sloane-street. The stand will be roofed in with glass, and at one end (the west) there will be a refuge for the cabmen; while at the other end there will be coffee and newspapers sold, and a refuge for passengers waiting for the omnibuses. The expense of the stand will be about £700. The board have decided to grant the application so far as they legally can or may; the police authorities to take all responsibility, and to remove the stand if it should be at any time necessary.

OPPOSITION TO THE INCOME TAX.—A public meeting was held on Monday, at the Assize Court, Kingston-on-Thames, to take into consideration the advisability of resisting the manner in which the income tax is levied upon the taxpayers. The court was densely crowded. The Mayor, Alderman J. W. Davison, presided. Mr. Arthur A'Beckett, secretary of the Metropolitan and Provincial Association for the Defence and Advancement of Trade Interests, after showing how unfairly the income tax was levied, moved "That the income tax, as at present assessed on the profits of trades and professions, is unjust and oppressive, and the mode of assessment most inequitable in its character." This was seconded by Alderman M. Wells, and carried unanimously. Mr. F. Gould, J.P., next moved "That this meeting protests against the present system of surcharge and appeal under the income tax upon the professional and trading classes of this town and neighbourhood, and indignantly condemns the general disregard of the returns made, and the manner in which appeals are treated." Mr. Longhurst seconded the motion, which was supported by Mr. J. Marsh, J.P., and others, and carried. A committee was afterwards formed to prepare a petition, which the Mayor was requested to sign on behalf of the meeting.

THE METRIC SYSTEM.—A meeting was held at the Mansion House, on Wednesday, to consider the propriety of adopting in England the metric system of measures, weights, and coins, both in commerce and for art and educational purposes. In the absence of the Lord Mayor, the chair was taken by Mr. Sheriff Bennett. The meeting was, in consequence of the inclemency of the weather, but thinly attended. The first resolution, which was moved by Mr. Brown and seconded by Sir J. Lubbock, M.P., was as follows:—"That, in the opinion of this meeting, the introduction into the United Kingdom of the metric decimal system of weights and measures, which is already in use in a large number of countries, would greatly facilitate commercial intercourse, and introduce economy of time and labour in practical business." Other resolutions, declaring the value of the metric system in art manufactures and in education, were proposed and carried; and the system was advocated by the chairman and one or two other speakers. The chairman devoted himself chiefly to the manufacturers' view of the question, and gave forcible examples from his own trade experiences of the value of the metric systems of weights and measures. Mr. Brown, the mover of the first resolution, pointed to the example of "clear and strong-minded Germany" in adopting the system, and also to its introduction into the vast territory of India; and Sir J. Lubbock advocated the proposed change on the broad grounds of its necessity in carrying out our banking and commercial operations all over the world. Seeing, he said, that the metric system was rapidly being adopted everywhere else, it would not do to have England tied to an obsolete and cumbersome system of weights and measures. Within England itself the adoption of a uniform system of weights and measures would be an immense advantage. General Strachey testified to the advantages which had resulted from the introduction of the metric system in India; and the Rev. Mr. Jowett, head master of the Bath-school Middle-Class School, recommended its adoption for educational purposes.

THE TICHBORNE TRIAL.

AMID signs of increased interest, the hearing of the Tichborne case was resumed, on Monday, in the Westminster Sessions-House. At the outset a discussion took place between the Judge and counsel respecting his Lordship's previous rejection of evidence to prove the possibility, and also the probability, of persons forgetting their native language under certain circumstances. Ultimately Madame Lansberg, a native of Poland, was put into the box on behalf of the claimant, and deposed that, although she lived in that country until she was twenty years of age, she could not now speak or understand Polish. Documentary testimony of a similar kind having been put in and read, the Attorney-General opened the case on behalf of the defence. He denounced the claimant as a cunning and audacious conspirator, a perjurer, a forger, an impostor, and a villain; adding that he would be able to prove hundreds of facts inconsistent with the story before the jury. Each of these facts would convict the claimant of a fraud, a lie, and a crime, on a scale and depth of wickedness unequalled in the annals of the law. A detestable imposture had been palmed upon the public, and he (the Attorney-General) would unmask and expose it so that it should require no second doing. The learned counsel then made a long and searching analysis of the claimant's case, and contrasted it with the facts upon which he relied to convince the jury that the plaintiff could not be Sir Roger Tichborne. He was explaining the relations between Sir Roger and his cousin Kate, now Mrs. Radcliffe, when the Court adjourned.

The Attorney-General on Tuesday continued his speech on behalf of the defendant. His narrative of the relations between Roger Tichborne and his cousin Kate, together with his statement of the reasons which led Sir Edward and Lady Doughty to refuse their consent to the union of the young people, was listened to with the deepest attention by the crowded court. The learned counsel read at length extracts from the correspondence which had passed between Roger and Lady Doughty, principally to show the terms upon which the families were and the style in which Tichborne was capable of writing. The Attorney-General then, in foreshadowing the line of the defence, told the jury that it was the plaintiff's duty to satisfy them that he was Roger Tichborne, and it was no part of defendant's duty to show who the claimant really was. It might be possible that nobody could say who the plaintiff really was, whilst still it was clear that he was not Roger Tichborne. He would not conceal that he had a great body of evidence to show that the plaintiff was probably Arthur Orton, but still it was no part of his duty to show to demonstration that he was this person. He should, however, contend that the plaintiff's own story and what he had written showed that he was not Roger Tichborne, and that the conclusion was almost inevitable that he was Arthur Orton. The speaker then placed before the jury an outline of the case supporting the Orton hypothesis, and was proceeding to comment upon the circumstances under which the discovery of the plaintiff was made in Australia, when the Court adjourned.

On Wednesday the Attorney-General's speech was occupied in great part by an analysis of the Australian correspondence, because, in his view, the initiation of the alleged fraud was of the utmost importance for the consideration of the jury. He pointed out that the claimant's information had grown with the progress of this correspondence, and that it would appear as though an impression at one time existed that if Lady Tichborne acknowledged him there would be an end of all difficulty in the way of recognition, and he could settle down in the colony to enjoy the proceeds of the Tichborne estates. The learned counsel quoted from several letters in support of this view. He also gave a history of the Brighton card case, which has been so often referred to during the trial, and incidentally remarked that, although he should be compelled to make various imputations, he would not scatter them broadcast without a shadow of proof, but would in every instance bring forward evidence in support of his statements. In dissecting the testimony given on the other side, Sir John Coleridge called attention to many inconsistencies in the letters of the claimant with the facts which Roger Tichborne must have possessed, even had he been, as sought to be established, absent twelve years from his native land.

On Thursday the Attorney-General began by justifying the strong language he had used regarding the claimant. He then proceeded as follows:—"Now, let him call attention to one important fact. Mr. Gibbs, the claimant's attorney, had stated in his examination before the Australian commission that De Castro had told him that he sailed in a vessel called the Jessie Miller, which was beyond doubt the vessel in which Arthur Orton sailed. If this statement of Mr. Gibbs was to be believed there was an end of the case, because while the sailing of the Jessie Miller must have been known to Arthur Orton, it could not have been known to Roger Charles Tichborne, who was at this time serving with his regiment in Ireland. It would be remembered that, prior to leaving England, Roger executed an elaborate will, in which he dealt with his property in a masterly fashion. On June 1, 1866, the claimant executed a will at Wagga-Wagga, which he signed as Roger Charles Tichborne, and in which he dealt with the Tichborne estates. Now it was singular that, if the claimant was the genuine Roger Tichborne, he should not have remembered and said something about the previous will, which he must have known was in existence in England. No reference, however, was made to that will, and it was altogether an independent document, with this extraordinary fact, that in dealing with the Tichborne estate it did not set forth one solitary thing connected with the family or property which was correct. He spoke of his mother as Lady Hannah Francis, whereas her name was Henriette Félicité. He dealt with the property at Cowes, in the Isle of Wight, where the Tichbornes never had an acre, and he appointed as one of his executors a person whom he called Sir John Bird, of Dorsetshire, whom they had never been able to find, although they had diligently searched for him. The claimant said he 'trumped up' the will with the intention of deceiving Mr. Gibbs, and getting money from him. Well, then, according to the claimant's own showing, he had been guilty of an atrocious fraud, and had obtained money by false pretences. While this will, however, displayed a marvellous ignorance of the Tichborne family, it showed a strange knowledge of the Orton family. It mentioned the names of Jarvis and Angel, who were connected with the Ortons, and it dealt with some supposed property at Hermitage, which was the name of a street near which old Orton lived at Wapping. Since the examination of the claimant had concluded the defence had sent out a gentleman to Australia, and he had made a curious discovery. In the possession of a man named Cox there had been found a pocket-book which originally belonged to the claimant, and which would be proved to be in his handwriting. On many of the pages of the book the name of Sir Roger Tichborne was written many times, as if the claimant was practising how to write such a signature. In some cases Roger was spelt with a d, and Tichborne was described as being in Surrey, England. America was spelt in different ways, such as 'Amereka,' and 'Amerika.' One entry was as follows:—'Lost, 13 Sept. 1866, in Wagga Wagga. Those that found it are welcome to keep it 2 actions in small debt court one for £6, and the other for £3 15.' On another page there was written the following, signed 'R. C. Tichborne, Bart.':—'Some men has plenty money and no brains, and some men has plenty brains and no money. Surely men with plenty money and no brains were made for men with plenty brains and no money.' On a subsequent page there was written, 'R. C., Tichborne Park 1 hope some day.'"

SOAP SANDWICHES.—A practical joke played off in New York has given rise to much scandal. Some young men had inserted in the sandwiches prepared for the luncheon table at a well-known civic reception of Prince Alexis thin layers of soap to replace the ham, which had been previously abstracted. The exquisite enjoyment of the perpetrators of the joke may be imagined when the sandwiches were bitten and the portion tasted forcibly swallowed for manners' sake by the unfortunate victims.

OBITUARY.

THE DUC DE PERSIGNY.—The death is announced of the well-known Bonapartist the Duke de Persigny, which occurred on Friday week, at Nice, from an affection of the spinal marrow. M. de Persigny early embraced the cause which he served so long and so steadfastly. He was a Bonapartist when the very name appeared as an anomaly, and he took an active part in schemes full of difficulty and danger, in the success of which it seemed as though none but an enthusiast could have believed. In time his devotion had its reward. The Second Empire was established to a great extent by his aid, and then power, rank, and wealth came to him in full measure. He was made a Count, and afterwards a Duke; he was a Minister, a senator, an Ambassador. It was impossible for services to be more distinctly recognised or more liberally rewarded. Jean Gilbert Victor Fialin was born at St. Germain-L'Espinasse, in the Loire, on Jan. 11, 1803. After studying at the College of Limoges, he entered the army when seventeen years of age, and served in a cavalry regiment. He was, however, accused of insubordination by his superiors, and had to leave the service. In 1831 he went to Paris, and wrote for the press, and shortly afterwards adopted the name of Persigny and the title of Viscount, which had belonged to his family for a couple of centuries, though it had fallen into disuse. He was converted to Bonapartism by reading the "Mémoires de St. Hélène;" and, strong in his new convictions (he had formerly Royalist views), he published, in 1834, a review called the *Occident Français*, of which, owing to his want of means, only the first number appeared. It introduced him, however, to the ex-King Joseph and to Louis Napoleon, who then resided at Arenenberg. From that time he attached himself to the fortunes of the Bonaparte family, and laboured for them with extraordinary ardour. He was the principal instigator of the Strasbourg plot, and made all the arrangements for carrying it out. He succeeded in escaping when it failed, and sought refuge in England, where, in 1837, he published an account of the circumstances. In the Boulogne plot, four years later, he was also concerned; but this time he did not succeed in escaping, but was tried and sentenced to twenty years' imprisonment. Owing to illness, he enjoyed considerable liberty while in confinement, and employed his leisure in writing a long essay on the Utility of the Pyramids of Egypt, which he sent to the Institute. On the fall of Louis Philippe, M. de Persigny hastened to Paris, and again devoted himself to the Bonapartist cause. In 1849 he became a member of the Assembly, and in this position rendered good service to the Prince President, crowning the work by playing a prominent part in the coup d'état. The hard work was now over, and he began in earnest to reap the results of it. He was made Minister of the Interior in 1852, and signed the decrees confiscating the Orleans property. In 1854 he resigned office, and sat for a while in the Senate, to which he had been elevated two years previously. In 1855 he came to London as Ambassador, and remained until the commencement of 1858. He filled the same post a second time the next year, replacing Marshal Pelissier. In November, 1860, he returned to fill the post of Minister of the Interior, and resigned in June, 1863. Shortly afterwards he was created a Duke by the Emperor. From that period he ceased to play a prominent part in political affairs, but from time to time he spoke and wrote upon current topics. He was a declared enemy of the Parliamentary system, and approved of the restrictions placed upon the French press. M. de Persigny married, in 1852, the only daughter of the Prince of Moskowa, and received from the Emperor Napoleon on the occasion a wedding present of £20,000.

THE EARL OF KELLIE.—The Earl of Kellie died, on Monday, at Cannes, where he had been residing for some time past. Intelligence having been received at Alloa Park, on Friday week, that his Lordship was suffering from a severe attack of bilious fever, Lord Erskine left for Cannes the same evening, where he was expected to arrive on Sunday. Lord Kellie was born in 1834. He married a daughter of the late Colonel Youngson, of Boroscra, Cumberland, who survives him, and by whom he had three sons, who are all living.

Mrs. W. IMPEY.—We notice with regret the death of Mrs. W. Impey, Deputy Keeper of Land Revenue Records and Inrolments, which took place on the 4th inst. Mr. Impey, after about twenty years' service in the State Paper Office, was, in 1860, appointed to the above-named post, the duties of which he ably discharged until within a few days of his death. His extensive knowledge of historical documents was ever freely, and with unusual modesty of demeanour, placed at the service of those who for historical or other purposes needed access to the records under his keeping, by whom—as, indeed, by all who had the good fortune to know him—his loss will be much regretted.

THE BRIGHTON POISONING CASE.

CHRISTINA EDMUNDS, forty-four years of age, and described as a spinster, was, on Monday, brought up at the Old Bailey charged upon four indictments—one for murder and three for attempts to murder. The specific case taken was that of a boy, Sidney Albert Barker, who is alleged to have been poisoned by a chocolate cream purchased at the shop of Mr. Maynard, a confectioner at Brighton, the said poison having been introduced into the preparation through the prisoner's instrumentality. Serjeant Ballantine's opening statement was followed by the evidence of several witnesses, whose statements showed that the prisoner, under specious but false pretences, had obtained possession of a quantity of strychnine sufficient to kill from fifty to sixty persons; that she was in the habit of employing little boys to buy chocolate creams for her at Mr. Maynard's shop; that she always returned those sweets on pretence that they were not the sort she wanted, the theory of the prosecution being that the prisoner either changed the chocolates or mixed poisoned ones with them; that these returned comfits were put into the cases whence they were supposed to have been taken, and were resold to the public; that she had also been in the habit of leaving packets of poisoned sweets in various shops, from eating which several persons were made ill; and that

strychnine, the poison she was proved to have obtained, was found both in the stomach of the deceased boy and in comfits taken from the case into which those returned by her had been put. On Tuesday Serjeant Parry, in addressing the jury for the defence, relied on the plea of insanity, the prisoner's father having died in a lunatic asylum, while her brother was for many years an epileptic idiot at Earlswood. Both her grandfathers were perfectly imbecile, and other of her relatives were insane. Several witnesses, including the Chaplain of Lewes Gaol, were called in support of the theory set up by the learned counsel. The jury, after deliberating an hour, returned a verdict of guilty, upon which the prisoner cast the blame of her position upon Dr. Beard, for whom she had conceived a violent passion, and whose wife it was supposed she had attempted to poison. Baron Martin, in passing sentence of death, expressed his concurrence in the verdict. Upon a subsequent statement of the prisoner, to the effect that she was pregnant, a jury of matrons was empanelled, but there was no arrest of judgment consequent upon their finding.

There has been no similar plea for arrest of judgment upon the part of a woman condemned to die at the Central Criminal Court since the September Sessions in the year 1847, when Mary Ann Hunt, who had been convicted of the murder of two children by throwing them into a canal, declared, in reply to the officer of the court, that she was pregnant. As was the case on Tuesday, a jury of matrons were empanelled on the spot, and, after making what they represented to have been a careful examination, they declared that the prisoner was not "quick with child." Hunt was therefore removed from the dock, and would certainly have undergone capital punishment in pursuance of her sentence had not Mr. McMurdo, then medical officer of Newgate, entertained some doubt as to the actual condition of the convict. At his request the execution was respite, and in a few months' time Hunt gave birth to a fine full-grown child within the prison, thus entirely negating the skill of the jury of matrons. It is understood that the convict Edmunds submitted to every needful examination on Tuesday, and that Mr. Ryley, the Woolwich district police surgeon, who gave his aid to the matrons, had no difficulty in deciding, after a brief application of the stethoscope, that the convict was not pregnant with a quick child.

TORTURE IN AMERICAN PRISONS.

THE NEW YORK TIMES has a special correspondent visiting the public institutions of the State. Last month he was at Sing-Sing Prison, and in his report he gives the following extraordinary account of punishments inflicted there:—"I must tell your readers about the 'back hand-cuff.' Along the wall of the punishment-room are five stout hooks, driven into the wall about 4 ft. from the ground. When a prisoner refuses obedience his hands are put in handcuffs fastened behind him. To the connecting link a strong ring is attached, and this ring is hoisted on to one of the hooks on the wall, forcing the head and shoulders forward and drawing up the arms behind and the lower part of the body into a cramped and painful posture. The keeper told me that they once had a prisoner who bore this punishment for six hours and a half before he would give in and agree to behave himself. But the most diabolical of all the instruments of torture is the 'thumb-pulley.' I do not hesitate to say that its use in an American or any other prison is an outrage on Christian humanity, and a burning disgrace to the boasted civilisation of the nineteenth century. I can speak from personal experience, I was so horrified at the keeper's explanation of the mode of working that I turned round and requested him to try it on me. He somewhat reluctantly consented, and the operation began. He produced about a foot of very stout whiplard, with a slip-knot at each end, and, putting my thumbs in the loops, drew the knot taut below the first joint. The cord was then hung on a hook attached to the end of a rope which dangled from a pulley in the ceiling, and the preparations were complete. On my giving the word 'ready,' a brawny-armed convict seized the other end of the rope and quickly hoisted me from my feet till I could with difficulty touch the floor with the tips of my toes; the whole weight of my body, of course, dragging on my thumbs. I was literally suspended from those two small portions of the human frame. I hung there for about five seconds, after which the pain became insupportable, and I requested to be let down. In those few seconds I experienced quite enough to assure me what must be the indescribable suffering of a poor creature suspended for even a minute. And yet the keeper told me that a prisoner once endured this hellish torture for five minutes and a half 'without fainting.' It seemed to me that my thumbs and the tough sinews on the inside of the wrist were being drawn out. I felt that my arms must leave the shoulder sockets, and that the muscles of my back would be literally torn away if I were not let down immediately. I found when my thumbs were released from the slip-knots that there were evident signs that the cord had almost buried itself in the flesh. An indentation over an eighth of an inch deep encircled each thumb. It was of a transparent white colour. Then came a band slightly discoloured, and then a band of red. The flesh did not altogether regain its natural appearance on one thumb for some time after. And yet I was the victim of this engine of torture for only five seconds! Many tender-hearted and humane persons may be inclined to comfort themselves with the hope that the infliction of the punishment of the pulley is of rare occurrence. Let me undeceive them by quoting from the last official report of the Inspectors of State Prisons. In table No. 14, under the heading, 'Exhibit of Punishments During the Year,' the following item appears—'Pulleyed, 208! Omitting Sundays, this total gives an average of four prisoners 'pulleyed' every week during the year. That such brutality is practised at Sing-Sing, Auburn, and Clinton, is not the fault of the prison authorities, but of our prison system. The law, though forbidding the shower-bath, allows these punishments to be inflicted at discretion; and in this case permission is indirectly an ordinance, for all these forms of punishments were discussed at the time of the passing of the Act

abolishing the use of the shower-bath in the State prisons. A criminal is a human being, even when he is a refractory criminal; and every consideration of common humanity cries out aloud against his being subjected to such horrible punishment." The writer adds the expression of his hope that the meeting of the International Prison Convention, soon to assemble in London, will lead to a thorough reform in prison discipline.

THE LONDON POLICE COURTS.

FORGING POST-OFFICE ORDERS.—Thomas Broderick, a clerk in the Post Money-Order Office, and Edward Budd, a clerk to a merchant in Tooley-street, were charged at Bow-street, last Saturday, with forging and uttering a money-order for £4 17s. 6d. A post-office order was sent from Scotland in favour of Mr. Vanderbyer, and at the request of that gentleman the order was made payable to another office at Peckham. The altered advice was, however, intercepted by Broderick before it was posted, and a forged receipt made out and presented by Budd at Peckham, at half-past nine in the morning. The clerk on duty said he knew Mr. Vanderbyer personally, and that he generally called himself Budd, and that he was deputed to come for the amount, as Mr. Vanderbyer was very busy that morning. At that moment Mr. Vanderbyer entered the post office, and Budd ran out of the shop. The prisoners were remanded.

SHAM CASUALS.—Two casual paupers were, on Monday, convicted of having obtained relief under false pretences—one at Hammersmith Police Court and the other at Worship-street. In the former case eightpence was found upon the prisoner, and he was sentenced to seven days' imprisonment, with hard labour. In the latter, bank books crediting the casual with a sum of £6 10s. were in his possession, and he was sent to prison for twenty-one days. His maintenance had cost the parish £1 5s. 6d.; but, as there was no ready money upon him, no order could be made for him to pay that sum out of the amount standing to his credit.

A WORKMAN CONVICTED OF PICKETING.—At the Hammersmith Police Court, on the 11th inst., John Turk appeared to answer a summons which had been taken out under the Criminal Law Amendment Act, 34th and 35th Vic., cap. 32, s. c. 1, relating to violence, threats, and molestation, by Mr. Henry Gwynne, a general engineer, carrying on business with his brother at The Chancellors, Hammersmith, for molesting him by watching his premises to coerce him. Mr. Francis, instructed by Mr. Cole, appeared on behalf of Messrs. Gwynne, and Mr. Croome appeared for the defendant, who pleaded not guilty. From the opening address of Mr. Francis it appeared that at the end of last year the men in the employ of Messrs. Gwynne sent in a petition, the defendant's name being attached to it, to them, asking for the adoption of the nine-hours movement on Jan. 1, for their recreation and culture. The request was declined on account of the contracts which Messrs. Gwynne had to complete, but they agreed to adopt the nine-hours movement on April 1 next. The men were understood to be satisfied with that arrangement; but on the morning of Dec. 16 they threw pieces of paper into the office giving a week's notice to leave. The men to the number of 103, were then paid and discharged, according to the rules of the establishment, that they should not belong to any combination. The defendant was one of the men, and on Monday last he distributed in front of the works handbills, of which the following is a copy:—

Nine-Hours' Movement.—Jan. 6, 1872.—Fellow-Workmen.—We, the late Workmen of the Hammersmith Iron Works, having endeavoured to come to some arrangement with our employers, J. and H. Gwynne, with respect to the Nine-Hours' Movement, to commence on Jan. 1, 1872, beg to inform you that we have failed in this matter, and were locked out on Dec. 16 and 14, 1871. We therefore appeal to you as fellow-workmen not to enter into any engagement with our late employers unless on the condition that the nine hours per day commence at once. By so refusing you will forward our cause as well as your own as working men. It is only by uniting that we, the working classes, can rise to an elevation never yet attained.—We remain, fellow-workmen, yours truly, The Locked-Out Men of the Hammersmith Iron Works.

Mr. Henry Gwynne said he had seen the defendant walking up and down in front of his premises, and speaking to his men and others whom he believed were seeking for work. Cross-examined: The defendant lived in the street opposite to his premises. He did not think it was usual for a man who was out of work to be walking about the street in which he lived. On Monday last he saw the defendant following his men and distributing handbills. He did not lock out the men. Alfred Pike said he started work for Messrs. Gwynne on Saturday last. He was not a willing witness. A handbill like the one produced was given to him on Monday. He could not swear to the defendant. Several men outside the premises asked him to give up his work, and said if he did not he would not be able to get work at any other place. The defendant was present. He also said that the defendant must have been present when the bill was given to him, as he passed him half a minute before. Witness said he should not leave. After a number of witnesses had been heard, Mr. Croome submitted that the evidence had failed to bring the defendant within the terms of the section. He said it had not been shown that he molested Mr. Gwynne in any way, and argued that there must be some actual molestation to justify a conviction. Mr. Ingham said he had no doubt that coercion was used to the men; but the question really was, whether, in coercing the men, the master was coerced. He should much rather submit that question to another Court; but he was afraid that the Act of Parliament threw the responsibility upon him. Mr. Francis argued that the action of the defendant was a coercion upon the master, for unless he adopted the nine-hours movement no men should work for him. He again referred to the handbill, quoting the concluding words, "By so refusing you will forward our cause," in support of the argument that there was coercion. Mr. Ingham said he believed there was. As a threat had been held out to Pike, it was a very serious thing; and to mark his sense of the impropriety of it he should order the defendant to be imprisoned for two months. Mr. Croome asked the magistrate to state a case with reference to the point of law, but Mr. Ingham suggested that he should appeal,

and he agreed to do so. There were other summonses against several workmen, but they were allowed to stand over for a month, to be withdrawn if the annoyance was discontinued. The proceedings excited considerable interest.

ATTEMPT TO IMPEDE ON THE POLICE MAGISTRATES.—At Westminster, on Tuesday, Eliza Passmore, of 38, Regent-street, Chelsea, was charged before Mr. Woolrych with endeavouring to procure charity by fraud. The magistrate at this court have adopted a printed form for the relief of deserving persons who apply to the poor-box. The prisoner, on the pretence that her husband was ill, applied for one of these, and an officer was directed to make inquiries about her. He found that the husband was well and "in work," and that the lady whose name was attached to the application knew nothing about it. The signature was a forgery. The woman said that poverty had driven her to do it. The magistrate told her that he should not discharge her; she was idle, and should be made an example of. He ordered a summons to issue for the lady to attend on behalf of the prosecution.

AN IMPORTANT POINT IN CAR LAW.—At Worship-street, on Tuesday, a gentleman living in Dalston was summoned for having refused to pay William Summers, a cab-driver, the sum of 1s. 6d. The question turned upon one of the regulations which Mr. Bruce, exercising a power intrusted to him by the Carriage Regulation Act of 1869, issued last year. The complainant, it appeared, had been hired at a greater distance than five miles from Charing-cross, and drove within the radius. On discharging him defendant refused to give him a shilling for each mile. The present summons was consequently taken out. The magistrate, after looking at the regulations, said that, if hired beyond the radius, a cabman was entitled to charge a shilling a mile for all his journey, although the major portion of it was within the radius. He ordered the defendant to pay the 1s. 6d., and 9s. costs.

A HARD CASE.—A case bearing upon the law of nuptial settlement was on Saturday before Vice-Chancellor Wickens. A woman, who at the time of her marriage had £500 in the bank in her maiden name, drew it out on a cheque of her own two days before her husband's death, and at his request, for the purpose of discharging some minor liabilities. At his decease she ascertained for the first time that her husband was rather deeply in debt, and she was now called upon by the executors to the estate to account for the money as a part of his property. She, however, claimed it as her own, but as there had been no marriage settlement, his Honour held that, the money having passed into the husband's possession, the widow must hand it over to his executors.

A BRACING CLIMATE.—The *Toronto Globe* gives an account of extreme cold in the Dominion of Canada on the night of the 20th and morning of Dec. 21. In Toronto the mercury fell to 21 deg. below zero at three a.m. At Montreal it was 23 deg. minus in the city, and 9 deg. lower north of the mountain. In Quebec it was 20 deg. minus. A farmer was found frozen to death in his carriage on the road to the city. At Ottawa the thermometer was 29 deg. below zero in sheltered places, and two or three degrees lower in exposed parts. At Orillia, Simcoe County, the thermometer was at 36 deg. minus in the town, and at 40 deg. at Asylum Point.

THE ALBERT ARBITRATION.—The arbitrator has just directed the issue of notices of the payment of dividends in connection with this arbitration. In the Family Endowment Society a first dividend of 15s. in the pound in respect of annuity contracts and arrears of annuities to Nov. 24, 1869, the date of the winding-up order, will be paid at 7, Waterloo-place, on Tuesday, Jan. 23. A similar dividend on endowment contracts will be paid at the same time. In the Bank of London and National Provincial Association a dividend of like amount will be paid on Jan. 24. In the Western Life Assurance Society the annuitants have already received (in Chancery) 2s. 6d. in the pound; and balance, making 20s. in the pound, will be paid on Jan. 25.

ATTEMPTED DOUBLE MURDER AT ROCHDALE.—On Sunday, about midnight, an engineer named Whiteley went to the residence of his wife, from whom he had been separated two years, and made a murderous attempt upon her life and that of his son. About twelve months ago Whiteley was bound over to keep the peace towards his son, Hugh Whiteley, a young man aged about twenty, who states that since that time his father has threatened to murder him. On Sunday night he went to his wife's house, and had scarcely seated himself before he took up the poker and aimed a blow at the head of his son. The son seized hold of the poker, and while they were struggling together Mrs. Whiteley summoned the neighbours, who came in and wrenched the poker from the man's hand. Whiteley then attacked his son with a pocket-knife, and attempted to cut his throat, and inflicted a severe wound on the back of his head. Mrs. Whiteley ran to the door to try to escape, but her husband caught her, pushed her into a corner, and cut her throat in a frightful manner. Whiteley is in custody.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, JAN. 12.

BANKRUPTCIES ANNULLED.—R. FARMER, St. John-street, Clerkenwell, ironmonger—W. HADFIELD, South Duffield, farmer—F. WAREING, Oswaldtwistle, grocer—J. CHIFFET, Shacklewell-green, saddler.
BANKRUPT.—H. NELKI, Basinghall-street, warehouseman—B. STEPHANY, Crippin-street, Spitalfields, wholesale china-dealer—S. GUY, jun., Eastbourne, coachbuilder—A. INGFIELD, Tamworth, vicar—T. NIXEY, jun., Redcar and Middlesbrough, ironkeeper—D. PEACOCK, Godmarchester, saddler—A. REYNOLDS, Boston, auctioneer—A. VON AUDLAN, Putney, schoolmaster—T. WATTE, Liverpool, hosier—T. WINTER, South Norwood, beer retailer.
SCOTCH SEQUESTERATIONS.—A. SMART, Musselburgh, baker—N. YOUNG, Glasgow, plasterer—G. BARNET, Keith, blacksmith—J. M'VICAR, Glasgow, hat manufacturer.

TUESDAY, JAN. 16.

BANKRUPTCIES ANNULLED.—E. A. BARLOW, South Molton-street, journeyman coachpainter—E. J. HALPHIDE, Hounslow, draper.
BANKRUPT.—S. C. GILL, Seething-lane, corn merchant—J. H. BANKS, Manchester, manager to ironfounders—R. D. CHRISTMAN, Penny-street, surgeon—G. and F. PALMER, Hinchley, manufacturers of hosiery—G. LOVETT, Coventry, stationer—W. B. PITT, West Malvern, innkeeper—J. T. TOMLINSON, Manchester, dealer in fustians—H. SANFORD, Cheltenham, sharer—J. H. THOUNCE, Morice Town, tailor—R. G. WEBSTER, Weymouth, bookbinder.
SCOTCH SEQUESTERATIONS.—J. B. M'NEIL, Glasgow, boatbuilder—A. WILSON, or Anderson, Oakbank, quarrier.

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